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THE
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THE LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.	THE CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.
ROCHDALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.	ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
EDINBURGH AND LEITH SOCIETY.	SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.	

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CONTENTS.

VOL. 2.

A		PAGE	Catalogues—continued.		PAGE
Aachen, Postgirls in	57	"	Copyright in.. .. .	112, 113, 135
Abroad, English stamps Used—see "English Stamps Used Abroad"	.. .. .		"	Earliest of .. .. .	.. .. . 31
Abroad, Stray Jottings from	31, 66, 103, 114, 137, 170, 257		"	English, High Price of .. .. .	.. .. . 31
Abyssinia—see "Gumpaps" .. .. .	.. .. .		"	Ideal .. .. .	.. .. . 3, 59
"Album Weeds," Price of.. .. .	.. .. .	31	"	Inconsistencies of .. .. .	.. .. . 2, 226
Alsace Lorraine. "Specialists' Journal" .. .. .	.. .. .	219	"	Maury v. Robert	112, 113, 135
America—see "United States." .. .. .	.. .. .		"	Prices in, Value of .. .. .	.. .. . 110
"English Stamps used in .. .. .	.. .. .	264	Catalogues and Lists :—		
Amoy-Formosa Locals .. .. .	.. .. .	275	A.B.C., Bright's .. .. .	.. .. .	52, 120
Amoy Locals .. .. .	.. .. .	17, 18	W. Brown's .. .. .	.. .. .	268
Anti-Graham Envelopes, &c. .. .. .	.. .. .	137	F. R. Ginn's .. .. .	.. .. .	268
Antiguans used in St. Kitt's	40, 68, ill	188	Egypt, Warburg's .. .. .	.. .. .	65
Anti-Seebeck Society, End of the .. .. .	.. .. .	1	English Adhesives .. .. .	.. .. .	31
Argentine Exhibition .. .. .	.. .. .	148	"Morley's .. .. .	.. .. .	112
Ashanti, Our Army Stamps .. .. .	.. .. .	198	"Plate Numbers, Hadlow's .. .. .	.. .. .	65
Auction Catalogues Bulky .. .. .	.. .. .	84, 130	German States, Dresden Club's .. .. .	.. .. .	172
"Improved, Mr. Hadlow's .. .. .	.. .. .	199, 204	Leeward Islands .. .. .	.. .. .	40
"Priceing .. .. .	.. .. .	149	Oriental Stamps, Tchakidji's .. .. .	.. .. .	172
"in Edinburgh .. .. .	.. .. .	249	Queensland, Hadlow's .. .. .	.. .. .	65
"Rotterdam .. .. .	.. .. .	150	Revenues, Colonial, Morley's .. .. .	.. .. .	52
"Lots Badly Mounted .. .. .	.. .. .	118	Scott's .. .. .	.. .. .	67, 94
"Placards Wanted .. .. .	.. .. .	77	"Prices of English in .. .. .	.. .. .	57
"Prices Best Guide .. .. .	.. .. .	52, 90	Senf's	1, 6, 7, 20, 21, 32, 140	
"Record Price for a Lot .. .. .	.. .. .	4	"(1896) .. .. .	.. .. .	242, 268, 272
"Sales 13, 25, 37, 49, 61, 73, 86, 98, 108, 120, 133, 145, 157, 179, 192, 207, 220, 227, 236, 247, 256	.. .. .	258	Spain and Colonies .. .. .	.. .. .	231
"Season 1895-6, Amounts of Sales .. .. .	.. .. .	258	Stanley Gibbons	9, 10, 22, 32, 41, 44, 119, 140	
Auctioneers-Dealers .. .. .	.. .. .	69	CC. and CA., Meaning of .. .. .	.. .. .	70
Auctioneers, Speed in Selling .. .. .	.. .. .	112, 130, 143	Ceylon, 8d. imperf.—see "Forgeries."	.. .. .
Australians, Drop in .. .. .	.. .. .	263	Changelings, Colour .. .. .	.. .. .	167
Austria, Mercuries—see "Forgeries."	.. .. .		Chemist-Philatelists .. .. .	.. .. .	221
"Post Cards in .. .. .	.. .. .	290	Chili in Gibbons' Catalogue .. .. .	.. .. .	9
Automatic Stamp Afixer .. .. .	.. .. .	250	"Watermarks .. .. .	.. .. .	206
"Stamp Distributor .. .. .	.. .. .	199, 222	China, a Government P.O. .. .. .	.. .. .	161, 165
"Stamper .. .. .	.. .. .	199	"Locals	11, 17, 96, 106, 137	
B			Chocolate, Stamps given away with .. .. .	.. .. .	9
"Bazaar," Prosecuted for Possessing a Die	41, 44, 64, 212, 216, 222, 230, 239, 276, 277		City of London Philatelic Club	31, 43, 55, 56, 67, 82, 93, 103, 115, 127, 139, 150, 151, 163, 173, 187, 201, 215, 223, 241, 251	
Belgium, Exhibition—see "Exhibitions."	.. .. .		Cleaners Caught in Canada .. .. .	.. .. .	67
"London Prints .. .. .	.. .. .	142	Cleaning Current Stamps .. .. .	.. .. .	257
"5 francs " .. .. .	.. .. .	11	"Dirty Stamps .. .. .	.. .. .	83
"see "Gumpaps."	.. .. .		Clearing House, Postal .. .. .	.. .. .	16
Benzine, Safe to Use .. .. .	.. .. .	144	Clipperton Island—see "Gumpaps."	.. .. .
Berlin, International Dealers' Society .. .. .	.. .. .	268	Club Established in London .. .. .	.. .. .	184, 188
Birmingham, Auction in .. .. .	.. .. .	186	Clubs, Exchange .. .. .	.. .. .	22
"Philatelic Centre .. .. .	.. .. .	205	Collectors' League, Stamp .. .. .	.. .. .	283
Blocks, Collecting .. .. .	.. .. .	178	Collect. What to	45, 97, 119	
Bogus Stamps—see "Forgeries" and "Gumpaps."	.. .. .		College Stamps, Cambridge .. .. .	.. .. .	132
Boy Collectors	155, 219, 225, 263, 270, 276, 279, 283, 287, 291		Cologne Congress .. .. .	.. .. .	242, 240, 271
Brattleboro', Mr. Palmer and the .. .. .	.. .. .	15	Colonial Postmarks .. .. .	.. .. .	68
Bristol, Proposed Society .. .. .	.. .. .	186	—see also "English Stamps Used Abroad."	.. .. .
British Columbia, 24d. .. .. .	.. .. .	12	Colonials, Emergency Lithos. .. .. .	.. .. .	246
British Guiana, Find of 2c. circular .. .. .	.. .. .	185	Colour Changelings .. .. .	.. .. .	167
"—see "Gumpaps."	.. .. .		Colours, Measurement of .. .. .	.. .. .	47
British Museum—see "Tupling Collection."	.. .. .		"Proposed Dictionary of .. .. .	.. .. .	24
British South Africa, Denmarked .. .. .	.. .. .	149	"Vegetable used .. .. .	.. .. .	257
Brussels Exhibition (1847).. .. .	.. .. .	265	"see "Tintometer."	.. .. .
Bulgaria—see "Gumpaps."	.. .. .		"Commemoratives" Teach History .. .. .	.. .. .	3
Bureau for Enquiries—see "Enquiry Bureau."	.. .. .		Congress, an International Philatelic .. .. .	.. .. .	202
Burglary at Messrs. Pattick & Simpson's .. .. .	.. .. .	216, 222	Congress, German Philatelic .. .. .	.. .. .	232, 240, 271
"in Edinburgh .. .. .	.. .. .	239	Coolgardie Locals, .. .. .	.. .. .	258
Business Announcements—see "Hilckes & Co."	.. .. .		Corea—see "Gumpaps" .. .. .	.. .. .
C			Costa Rica, Surcharges of .. .. .	.. .. .	178
CA. and CC., Meaning of .. .. .	.. .. .	70	Critics, how to Answer .. .. .	.. .. .	3
Cambridge College Stamps .. .. .	.. .. .	132	Cuba, Postal Arrangements in .. .. .	.. .. .	144
Canada, Philately in .. .. .	.. .. .	9	"Y $\frac{1}{2}$" .. .. .	.. .. .	43, 84, 91
"Registered, 2c. brown .. .. .	.. .. .	24	Cuban Republic—see "Gumpaps" .. .. .	.. .. .
"8c. Turning Colour .. .. .	.. .. .	113	Curacoa, Discourages Speculation .. .. .	.. .. .	167
Card, History of the Post .. .. .	.. .. .	131	"Perfs... .. .	.. .. .	12
Cashmere, Issue Ceases .. .. .	.. .. .	149	D		
Cashmere Reminders .. .. .	.. .. .	149, 162	Daily Stamp Paper .. .. .	.. .. .	103
Catalogues—see also "Auction Catalogues."	.. .. .		Dealers as Auctioneers .. .. .	.. .. .	69
"Circulation of .. .. .	.. .. .	31	"Directory of .. .. .	.. .. .	29
			"Increase in Numbers .. .. .	.. .. .	29

	PAGE		PAGE
De La Rue Design, Varieties	12, 269, 277	Forgeries— <i>continued</i>	
Delay in Delivery, Twelve Years'	3	Luxemburg, 37½c. brown, used	54
Die, Possession of, Illegal— <i>see</i> "Bazaar."		Mexico	221
Directory of Dealers	29	Montserrat, 4d. CA.	206
Dirty Stamps, To Clean	83	Naples, ½t. blue	200
Dresden Society, Number of Members	241	Natal, first issue	54
Dutch Indies, Perfs.	12	Newfoundland, 5c. black (illd.)	225
		" " forged postmarks (illd.)	79, 92
		New South Wales, 1d. Sydney (illd.)	114
E		Roumania, 15b. (illd.)	54
Ecuador gives up Seebeckism	91	Sandwich Islands— <i>see</i> "Hawaii"	
" — <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."		Saxony, 5 and 10gr. (illd.)	225
Edinburgh, Burglars in	239	Sicily (illd.)	17
Egypt, Stamps of, Mr. Warburg's	65	Swaziland	71
" War Stamps	277	Sydney Views (illd.)	114
" Unpaid, 5 pias.— <i>see</i> "Forgeries."		United States, forged grills	131
England— <i>see</i> "Great Britain."		Zanzibar	265
English Stamps Used Abroad 96, 106, 130, 155, 187, 188, 202, 203, 204, 218, 225, 226, 264		Forgery Proved by Issue Date of Stamp	78
— <i>See also</i> "Great Britain, English Column."		Formosa Locals	275
Engraving, Process of	152, 175	France, Forgers safe in	124
Enquiry Bureau (<i>see also</i> "Law and Police") .. 18, 19, 41, 43, 46, 54, 65, 66, 68, 81, 84, 92, 104, 115, 138, 164, 191, 270, 272		" Fusion of the Two Societies	169, 172
Enquiry Bureau:—		" Handbook Promised	148
Bernard, H. signature 93, 115		" New Design	126, 237
Berndt, L. " 79, 92		" Old	156
Bowman " 113		" Some Stamps to be Abolished	290
Coelho, T. 48, signature 138, 262		" 1 franc. vermilion, History of	60
D'Avricourt, L. writing 55, 68, 84, 115		" Unpaid, 40c.— <i>see</i> "Forgeries,"	
De Cantencin signature 93		" <i>see also</i> "Paris."	
De Coster, E. 93, 115, 126		Franks, Official Adhesive	291
Delatour, G. " 65		French Colonials	19
Deriancy, R. (<i>see also</i> "D'Avricourt") signature 138		Friedl's Postal Museum	258
Dodson, A. 46, signature 54, 66		Future of Philately	225
Donaldson, G. (<i>see also</i> "D'Avricourt") writing 66		" " Humourous Forecast	263
Gonzales, C.C. (<i>see also</i> "Coelho") signature 138			
Guillain " 65		G	
Hanes, G. writing 93		Gambia, 6d. Variety	253
Quail, T. A. S. (<i>see also</i> "Coelho") signature 138		" 6d.— <i>see</i> "Forgeries."	
Roberts, C. H. signature 45		Gauges, Perforation	164, 176
Ross, Alex. (<i>see also</i> "D'Avricourt") writing 66, 115		Generalist's Views, A	45
Sauvage, Mdle. signature 138		Geneva Exhibition	161, 172, 273
Tayar, Jos. C. 81, 104		German East Africa	137
Exchange Club, The Largest	100	Germany, Automatic Stamper	199
Exchange Clubs	22	" Colonials	72
Exchange, London Philatelic	116, 124, 125, 148	" Philatelic Congress	232, 240
Exhibitions:—		" Philately in	178
Argentina	148	" Returned Letter Labels	34
Brussels (1897)	265	" Telegraphs and Revenues	125
Geneva	161, 172, 273	" Typical Society Meeting	29
Hague, The	186, 265, 278	" Year's Sale of Stamps	266
London 188, 206, 216, 224, 239, 242, 249, 252, 254, 260, 268, 286		" 2 Marks— <i>see</i> "Forgeries."	
"Expert," Example of a so-called	198	Gibbons & Senf	1, 6, 7, 20, 21, 32, 41, 44
Expert's Liability for Forgeries	262, 278	" and the Nova Scotia Remainders	286
"Express d'Orient" Labels	156	Gibraltar, 5 pes. Remainders	137
		Ginn, Mr. F. R., and Mr. H. Hilckes	56, 58
		Gossip of the Hour	2, 28, 40, 52, 90, 112, 124, 136, 148
		Great Britain— <i>see also</i> "Catalogues."	
		Abroad, Stamps Used, 96, 106, 130, 155, 187, 188, 202, 203, 204, 218, 225, 226, 264— <i>see also</i> "English Column."	
F		America, Stamps Used in	264
Facsimiles, Open Sale of	226	Anti-Graham Envelopes, &c.,	137
Fakes— <i>see</i> "Forgeries."		Army Stamps to be issued	249
Farthing Newspaper Post	11	Bazaar Prosecution 41, 44, 64, 212, 216, 222, 230, 239, 276, 277	
Fashionable Stamps	279, 290	Cleaning Current Stamps	257
Fiji Remainders	33	Compound Envelopes	19, 112, 116, 205
Fine Specimens, Value of	178	Congress, Proposed English	260
First Steps in Philately	287	Control letters	168
Fiscals, Postal	226	Delivery Co.'s Stamps, Forgeries	149
Forger safe in France	124	Egypt War Stamps	277
Forgeries, Expert's Liability for	262, 278	English Column 105, 140, 142, 152, 160, 170, 198, 212, 230, 238, 250, 266, 275, 285	
" Illegal to Possess	274	English Postmark on Transvaals	137
" Need Studying.. ..	60	English Specialists' Journal 41, 48, 77, 106, 130, 178, 226, 254	
" Seller's Liability	262, 278	Envelopes, Anti-Graham	137
Forgeries:—		" Compound	19, 112, 116, 205
Austria, Mercuries	69, 79, 97, 200, 215	Gibbons' Catalogue Inconsistencies	10
Ceylon, 8d. imperf. (illd.)	79	Hair Lines	160, 190
Egypt, Unpaid, 5 pias (illd.)	79	Hand Stamps	2, 28, 35
France, Unpaid, 40c. blue (illd.)	54	Illustrations, Dies for, Illegal— <i>see</i> "Bazaar."	
Gambia, 6d. (illd.)	217	I.R. Official, Accounts Cancel	54
German Empire, 2 mark	54	" Forgeries	54
Great Britain, Delivery Co's.	149	" Theft of	76, 102
" I.R. Official	54	Mulreadys, Two Plates	52
" V.R. fakes	204	" Why Rare	274
Hawaii, Bogus (illd.)	217	New Issue Suggested	289
Heligoland (illd.)	53		
India, Service	119		

CONTENTS.

V.

	PAGE		PAGE
Great Britain— <i>continued.</i>		Hinges Not Needed	3
Newspaper Post, Farthing	11	History Taught by Stamps	3
Plate Nos., Hadlow's List	65	Holland, The Hague Exhibition	186, 265, 278
Postmarks, Insufficient, Cause Fraud	142	" 5c. yellow	3
Prices of English in U.S.A.	57	Hot Weather Spoils Gum	29
" " Philatelic Works	31	Huddersfield, Proposed Society	231
" " Unused	48	Hull, Proposed Society	149, 176
" " Variations in	112	Hungary— <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."	
Registration a Delusion	243, 262		
Reply Letter-Cards Proposed	239	I.	
Reprint of id. black	65, 94	Illustrations, Die illegal— <i>see</i> "Bazaar."	
Tintometer to be Used Officially	161	" in U.S.A. forbidden	64
Varieties, Minor— <i>see</i> "English Column."		India:—	
Watermark, Small Crown, Varieties	178	Bombay, The Strand of	219
V.R., Value of the	94, 155	Bulky Stamps	29
" id. altered to	204	Dealer swindled by English Dealer	270
id. Current, Alleged Forgeries	77	Detaining a Rarity	113
id. Octagonal, Die 3	46, 48	Gonsalves v. Ramos	266
id. Current, Error of Colour	161	Gwalior	276
Greece— <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."		Handbook Suggested	8
Grouping for Specialists	177	Import Tax	8, 85
Gum, Difficulties of Description	290	Native States, High Values Unnecessary	276
" Original, Value of	255	" " Issues to Cease	149
" Spoilt by Hot Weather	29	" " Reprints	186
" Varieties in De La Rue Colonials	277	" " Surcharged	167
Gumpaps, <i>City Press</i> on	53	N.W. Provinces	9
" International Action Against	56, 239, 242, 291	Official Discourtesy	174
" Mr. W. Brown, and	32	Philately in	12
Gumpaps:—		<i>Service</i> , Reprints or Forgeries?	119
Abyssinia	99	1a. Fiscal Postal	36
Amoy	17, 18	1a. <i>first issue</i> , Varieties (illd.)	203, 217
Belgium	18, 161	International Philatelic Congress	202
British Guiana	150, 185	" Postal Congress	291
Bulgaria	125, 149, 161, 164, 186, 188	" Stamp, an	291
China	11	Invention of Stamps, Swedish Claim	140
Clipperton Island (illd.)	113, 126, 137	Investment, Stamps as an	107, 116, 131, 143, 144, 167
Corea	76	Italy, Red Tape in	198
Cuban Republic	162, 166, 171, 186, 191, 205, 213, 218	" Post Cards <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."	
Ecuador	76, 125, 186		
Formosa	76	J	
French Colonials	19	Jamaica, Uncatalogued	34
Greece	18, 125, 186, 226	Japan— <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."	
Gwalior	276	Japanese English	30
Hungary	18	Jermyn St. Club	184, 188
India, Native States, High Values	276	Johannesburg Society wound up	178
Italy, Post Cards	14	Johore— <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."	
Japan, "Commemoratives" 161; illustrated	284	K	
Johore	172	Korea— <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."	
Korea	76		
Liege	18	L	
Macao	30	Lantern, First Used in Philately	171
Madagascar	32	" Show of Stamps	150, 152
Montenegro	266	Law and Police (<i>see also</i> "Enquiry Bureau.")	
New South Wales	18, 20, 21, 35, 177	Baden, G., Sentenced	43
New Zealand	48	<i>Bazaar</i> , Prosecuted for illustrations, 41, 44, 64, 212, 216,	222, 230, 239, 276, 277
Nicaragua, Postmarked to Order	96, 264	Belgium, Forgery Seller Sentenced	160
Perak	48	Burglars at Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's	216, 222
Peru	18, 72, 260	" in Edinburgh	239
Portugal	57	Cleaners Caught in Canada	67
Rome, "Commemoratives"	113	Damage to Stamps by Employée	53
Samoa, Postmarked to Order	271	" Danby, Lt.-Col." Case dismissed	2
— <i>see also</i> "Samoa"		Description of Stolen Stamps	148, 265, 283
Straits Settlements	48, 172	" " a London Thief	186, 283
Tonga	59, 76, 205	Embezzling to Buy Stamps	249
" Defence of	166, 191	Errand-Boy Robs his Master	53
Transvaal	8, 18, 40, (illd.) 85, 239, 275	Forgery proved by a Stamp	78
Uruguay	274	France, Forger safe in	124
Venezuela	274	Germany, Cases in	223
Western Australia	95	" Responsibility of Seller	57
" — <i>see also</i> "Reprints"		<i>I. R. Officials</i> , Theft by Civil Servants	76, 102
Gwalior— <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."		Kidder, Mr. N. Q., Collection Found	67
		Maury v. Robert	112, 113, 135
H		Moreshwar C. v. Caitan D.	113
Hague, the, Exhibition	186, 265, 278	New Zealand, Telegraph Stamps taken	149
Hair Lines on English	160, 190	Paris Philatelic Murder	213, 216, 221, 223, 224, 239
Hawaii, Plates and Dies Destroyed	72	" Another	250
" Remainders to be	231	Registered Parcel Stolen	189, 243
— <i>see</i> "Forgeries."		Roberts v. Mortimer	102, 105, 118
Heligoland, in the <i>Monthly Journal</i>	263	Sierra Leone, Postmaster sentenced	90
" Rare Shades	60	Skerichly, J. A., case dismissed	2
— <i>see</i> "Forgeries."		Stolen Stamps, Descriptions of	148, 265, 283
Hilckes, Mr. H., and Mr. F. R. Ginn	56, 58	Thief, Description of a London	186, 283
Hilckes & Co., H., Announcements 5, 6, 19, 31, 46, 58, 78, 106,	117, 150, 199, 240, 272, 292		

	PAGE		PAGE
Personalities—continued.		Personalities—continued.	
Labouchere, Mr., has a Deal	274	Protection Association, Philatelic—see "P.P.A."	
L'Estrange Ewen, Mr. H.	41, 46, 48, 106, 130, 149	Purchaser's Risk	102, 105, 118, 128
Levy, Mr. Asher	113		
Luhn, Mr.	39	Q	
Mahe, Mons. P.	159	Queensland, Hand Stamp	284
Manchester, Duke of	237	" Impressed Wmk.	72
Mangels, Mr. C. H.	75	" 5d.	9
Marx, Dr.	135		
Maury, Mons. A.	99, 112, 113, 135	R	
Mekeel, Mr. I. A.	75	" Rarest Stamp," A New	161
Moens, Mons. J. B.	43, 123	Rarity of Certain Stamps	107
Murray, Dr.	1	Rates, Postal, Excessive	16
Nankivell, Mr. E. J.	123	Record Price for a Stamp	219
Noschkan, Dr. A.	1	References, Value of	104
Olney, Mr. F. F.	229	Registered Parcel Stolen in London	189
Palmer, Mr.	15	Remainders:—	
Paul, M. J. W.	39	Cashmere	149, 162
Philbrick, Judge	183	Fiji	33
Phillips, Mr. C. J.	1, 6, 7, 29, 39, 75, 271	Gibraltar 5 pes.	137
Phillips, Postmaster J., of Amoy	17, 96, 137	Hawaii, Provisionals to be Destroyed	231
Primoli, Comte, Sale of Collection	99, 147, 171	Leewards—see "Leeward Islands."	
Puttick & Simpson, Messrs., Burglary	216, 222	Mexico, 1884-86 issues	223
" " and Mr. Hoffman	232, 233, 252	Nova Scotia	286
Ridpath, Mr. T.	183	St. Helena, 1/-	57
Robert, Mons. V.	112, 113, 135	Reply Letter Cards Proposed	239
Roberts, Mr. Vernon	229	Reprints, Different Classes of	255
Rosebery, Lord	15	" No Longer Sold	28, 41
Rowland Hill	64	" Official	168
Saunders, Mr.	39	" Great Britain 1d black	65, 94
Schindler, Mr. A.	123	" Hanover ½gr.	223
Scott, Mr. W.	111	" India, Native States	186
Scott Stokes, Mrs. (photo)	69	" " Service	119
Sellschopp, Mr. W.	59	" Mexico, 20c. puce	43
Semple, Mr. Guy	197	" Newfoundland	156
Senf., Messrs.—see "Catalogues."		" Western Australia, ½d. surcharge	95, 105, 125, 132, 161
Shove, Mr. E. L.	1	Returned Letter Labels, German	34
Shryock, General	159	Reviews and Mentions—see also "Catalogues and Lists"	
Slater, Mr.	63	Alsace Lorraine, Specialists' Journal	219
Stambouloff, Mons.	27, 51	Connecticut Philatelist	206
Stock, Mr. S.	183	Courier	205
Taylor Bros., Messrs.	15	Dealers, Nunn's Directory of	29
Thompson, Mr. T. H. (photo)	33	Egypt, Mr. Warburg's	65
Thorne, Mr. W., Sale of Collection	63	English Specialists' Journal	41, 48, 77, 106, 130, 178, 226, 254
Tiffany, Mr. J. K.—see "United States A.P.A."		German States, Telegraphs and Revenues	125
Toppell, Mr. T.	197	Hobbies	48
Tuttle, Mr. G.	111	Pennsylvania Philatelist	263, 271
Vindin, Mr. D. A.	197	Philatelic Record	155
Wichman, Mr.	112	Philatelic Times	271
Wickhart, Mr. F. A. (photo)	100	Portuguese, La Philatelic	144
Wilson, Mr. C. S.	147	Postage Stamp	284
Wolseley, Lord	168	Post Office, New York	263
York, Duke of	17	Rocky Mountain Stamp	271
Peru—see "Gumpaps"		South African Philatelist	71, 132
" At a P.O. in	149	South Africa, Stamps of	78
Philatelic Exchange, London	116, 124, 125, 148	Stamp Collector	271
Philatelic Record's Editor	119	Tauschft. Das	264
Philbrick, Q.C., Mr. F. A.	75	Vertraul. Korrespond. Blatt	58
Pillar Boxes	17	Review of Reviews, 11, 23, 35, 47, 59, 71, 85, 97, 107, 119, 131,	155, 167, 177, 205, 219, 226, 246, 255, 263, 271, 279, 289
P.Y.G.B. attacks us	206	Rise in Prices	12, 116, 143, 144, 267, 271
Poetry:—		Risk in Buying Stolen Stamps	102, 105, 118, 128
The Apotheosis of the Gumbug	36	Robbery of a Registered Parcel	189, 243
Police—see "Law and Police."		Rome, "Commemoratives"	113
Portugal—see "Gumpaps."		Rotterdam, Auction in	150
Posters, Collecting	125	Roumania, 15b.—see "Forgeries."	
Post Card, History of the	131	Russian Locals, Defence	23
" in Austria	290		
Postmarks Altering Countries	68	S	
—see also "English Stamps Used Abroad."		St. Christopher, Antiguans used in	40, 68, illd. 188
" Collecting	163	St. Helena, 1/- Remainders	57
" Insufficient, Cause Fraud	142	St. Louis, Find	12, 30
" to Order	96	" Price Paid for	36
P.P.A.	68, 104, 164	St. Vincent, Record Price	222
Press Nonsense about Philately	16, 17, 191, 224, 231, 255, 279	Sales—see "Auction Sales."	
Press, the, on Philately	28, 198, 206	Samoa, Postal Arrangements in	57, 80, 156, 271
Price, Record, for a Stamp	219	Sandwich Islands—see "Hawaii."	
Prices, False	15	Sardinian Letter Sheets	279
" Rise in	12, 116, 143, 144, 267, 271	Saxony, 5 and 10gr.—see "Forgeries."	
" Thirty-five Years Ago	267	Screen made of Stamps	17
" under Catalogue	119	Season, 1895-96, Was it Bad?	255
Prince Edward Island	107		
Printing Stamps	152, 175		
Production of Stamps	152, 175		

	PAGE		PAGE
Secret Marks of Stamps:—		United States— <i>continued.</i>	
Oldenburg, 64, 117, 126, 138, 150, 172, 200, 234, 244, 253,		Bureau of Printing	246
258, 280, 288		Cancellations	23
Switzerland	4, 29, 65, 82, 91	Catalogues Seized for Illustrations	64
United States	141, 165, 253	City Stamps Proposed	136
Seebecks	35, 59, 91, 97, 119	Columbus Issue	60, 67, 107
Anti-Society Ends	1	Departmentals, Nos. Issued	168
" as Wall Paper	226	English, Scarce in	57
" to Partly Cease	231	Enquiry Bureau Needed	291
Senf and Gibbons	1, 6, 7, 20, 21, 32, 41, 44	Envelopes Sold to Philatelists	131
Senf's Catalogue	1, 6, 7, 20, 21, 32, 140	Facsimiles, Open Sale of	226
" (1896)	242, 268, 272	Grills, Forged	131
Sheffield Exhibition	136	Investment, Stamps as an	60
Sicily— <i>see</i> "Forgeries."		Log Rolling	9, 17, 131, 156, 178, 263
South Africa, Stamps of	78	Mekeel and Scott Publication Partnership	264, 276
South Australia, Bad Printing	222	Minor Varieties	250
" Humorous Design, (illd.)	264	New York, Proposed Club	250, 258, 279
" New 5d.	222	Officials Recognise Philately	131
Spain, Postal Mismanagement	284	Outer Line Varieties	272
" Post Offices in	107	Periodicals, How to Buy	107
Specialising a Danger	219	Philadelphia, Coelho in	48, 138
" Groups for	177	" Long Firm	113
" in Unfashionable Countries	85	Philatelia, Sons of	284
" New Issues— <i>see</i> "New Issues."		Plate Nos.	59
Speculative Stamps— <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."		Postage Due Stamps, to obtain	67
Speculative Stamps, Society for Suppression of, 18, 36, 44, 71,		Postmarks, to be Light	60
76, 80, 84, 164, 226, 274		Printing, Bureau of	246
" " " " " Circular No. 3	18	Prizes for Essays!	131
" " " " " " " " 4	76	Proofs, Perforated	246
" " " " " " " " 5	186	Ribbed Paper Stamps	119
" " " " " " " " 6	274	Scott Co. & Mekeel, Publication Partnership,	264, 276
Speculation in Stamps	24, 107, 116, 131, 143, 144, 167	Secret Marks	141, 253
S.S.S.S., The— <i>see</i> "Speculative Stamps, Society for Suppression of."		" " 24c.	165
Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly:—		" " 30c.	141
Advertisements in	143, 278, 291	Specializing	35
Attack on	270	S.S.S.S. & S. American Govts.	40, 160
Changes in	270	" Stamps " Publishing Co.	283
Circulation of	240	Unwatermarked, Corner in	43, 72
Postal Delays	199	Watermark, Dates of Issue	103
Programme, 1895-96	6	" Hard to Find	131
Small Dealers and	52	" to be Changed	156
Specimen Copies	140, 199	Welkuma's Postal System	206
Two Years of	287	World's Fair Cards	58
Stamp Collectors' League	283	Writers, Good, Rare	263
Stolen Stamps, Risk in Buying	102, 105, 118, 128	Baltimore, 10c. Discovered	161
Straits Settlements— <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."		" " Price Paid for	219
" " Colour Changes Proposed	161	Brattleboro, Mr. Palmer and the	15
" " 32c. rose, Error	53, 64	St. Louis Find	12, 30
Street Pillar Boxes	17	" Price paid for	36
Surcharge, the Greatest	137	2c. claret (1870)	234
Surcharges in 1894	9	3c. (1851) variety	11
Surinam, Perfs.	12	Universal Stamp, a	291
Swaziland— <i>see</i> "Forgeries."		Unnecessary Issues— <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."	
Sweden Claims Invention of Stamps	140	Uruguay— <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."	
Swindlers— <i>see</i> "Law and Police" and "Enquiry Bureau."			
Switzerland, Geneva Exhibition	161, 172, 273	V	
" Secret Marks	4, 29, 65, 82, 91	Vancouver 2½d.	12
T		Varieties, Uncatalogued	177
Taping Collection	5, 111, 143, 237	Venezuela— <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."	
Thief, Description of a London	186, 283	Victoria, Advs. on Cards	91, 119
Thieves, Mr. Castle, J.P. on	11	" Colour Changes	119
Tintometer	150, 161, 162, 166	" Philatelic Society's Report	266
— <i>see also</i> "Colours."		" 4d. Emblems, no wmk.	34
Tonga— <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."		Virgin Islands, "large V.", 6d. (illd.)	203, 217
Transvaal— <i>see</i> "Gumpaps."		W	
" Commemoratives, Rush for	8	Washington Postal Congress, 1897	291
" Colours Uniform with Cape	136	Watermarks, Minor Varieties in	206
" English Postmarks on	137	Watermarks, to Find	5
" New Issue Proposed	136	Western Australia, Coolgardie Locals	258
" Variety of first 1d.	205	" " Postal Fiscals	224
" " " 2d. olive	253	" " Provisionals 63, 95, 105, 124, 125, 132, 161	101
Trinidad Lithos.	23	" " 3d. brown, CA.	23
" New Issue	214	" " 4d., first issue, wmk.	289
Turkey, New Issue Proposed	136	West Indians, Errors of Surcharge in	289
" Rarity Sold Cheap	147	" " — <i>see</i> "Leeward Islands."	
U		Women Philatelists	252
Uganda Locals	9	Y	
Uncatalogued Varieties	177	Young Collector	155, 219, 225, 263, 270, 276, 279, 283, 287, 291
Unfashionable Countries	85	Z	
United States:—		Zanzibar— <i>see</i> "Forgeries."	
— <i>see also</i> "Law and Police," "Personalities," "Reviews."			
Aged Philatelists Rare	60		
A.P.A.	1, 8, 51, 229, 272, 278, 284		
" — <i>see also</i> "Log-Rolling."			

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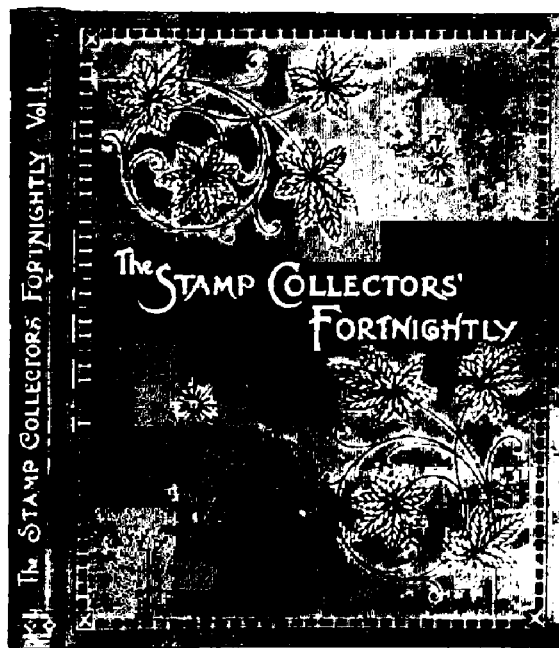
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THE TYPE WILL BE LARGE &
CLEAR. ALL WILL BE
ABLE TO READ IT
EASILY.

CORRECT MARKET PRICES.
NO STAMPS WILL BE
MARKED LOW
FOR BUYING.



The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,
 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."
 CONDUCTED BY
HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:
 The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
 The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.
 Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	1
Gossip of the Hour.. .. .	2
Philately at Home	2-3
Secret Marks of Switzerland	4
Under Bennett's Clock	5
Philatelic Events	5
Answers to Correspondents	5
Between Ourselves	6
The Truth About Senf's Catalogue	7-8
Philately Abroad	8
Our Forum	9
Our Review of Reviews	11-12
Auction Supplement	13-14



MR. GORDON JONES, of Calcutta, is no longer a stamp dealer, having sold out to the proprietors of The Universal Stamp Exchange in the same city. His name, however, will be perpetuated in the amalgamated business, which will, in future, be carried on at 6, Mission Row, Calcutta, with the title and style of B. Gordon Jones & Co. *The Philatelic World*, fit representative of the wide-awake philatelists of India, is taken over with the business.

Major Evans, we note, enters into a personal explanation in the course of his "London Letter" to *The Philatelic World*. He explains that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., have always allowed him a free hand in the editing of *The Monthly Journal*. Now we know why that scurrilous attack upon Senf Bros. of Leipzig, did not appear in the *M.J.'s* editorial column.

So Mr. JOHN K. TIFFANY is still President of the American Philatelic Association. And contrary to our expectations a majority of the members of the Association have decided to try Mr. Clifford W. Kissinger for a term in

the office of Secretary. More's the pity; for Mr. Kissinger is too young, too inexperienced, to control a society which practically determines the status of stamp collecting in the States. That there is considerable dissatisfaction among the seniors of the A.P.A. we can well understand; for not even an American likes to see a man pitchforked into a responsible post by the prearranged efforts of a gang of logrollers seconded by the blatant self-advertising tactics of the candidate himself.

Mr. W. HADLOW we note, has removed to Exeter Street, Strand.

Dr. MURRAY, of Oxford, well known as a leading member of the Oxford Philatelic Society, is the famous philologist, whose name is associated with the monumental of "The New English Dictionary."

Mr. E. L. SNOVE, the founder and president of the Anti-Seebeck Society, has given notice that that Society has ceased to exist as the S.S.S.S. fully covers its aims and objects.

Dr. ALFRED NOSCHKAU, the well-known editor of the *Illustrierte Briefmarken Zeitung*, can claim the probably unique record of having regularly contributed to philatelic journals for twenty-five years.

Query: Who is "Junius?"
Answer: A new member on our staff, who will make his bow to our readers in our next number with a series of articles which we venture to say will prove of immense popularity.

To Postal Subscribers.

PLEASE find on this space a Two Pence Stamp of Cape of Good Hope, presented gratis to postal subscribers only.





TEN THOUSAND of this number! My stars and garters! That is a big audience for a modest man to address. An ordinary Stamp Grabber does not get an opportunity of bamboozling ten thousand fellow-grabbers every day of the week. So here goes to improve the shining hour.

Well, ladies and gents of the ten thousand, you want from me the Gossip of the Hour. Unfortunately, there are certain restrictions on the retailing of that gossip. Otherwise, how I could make your sides shake. What a chuckle we could have together over certain little events which are just now agitating the under-currents of philatelic life. But it must not be. The editor reserves to himself those tit-bits which are only suitable for the Special Label Department.

Apparently we are in for a battle of the Catalogues. What a fizzle that will be when they get the steam up! We shall enjoy that fun. We shall be able to encourage them with such cries as, "Go it, ye cripples; wooden legs are cheap," and if they will only let out a few secrets of the fine art of fleecing, what an entertainment it will be! Why, it will give us something to keep us philatelically warm all through the coming winter.

There are a few things which I must say I do not quite comprehend in the said catalogues, apart from the prices. I refer to "Officially sealed" labels. We have those of fifth rate countries set out in great detail, but no mention of our own. That is an absurd inconsistency. Yet it seems to me to be still more absurd to include them at all amongst postage stamps, for they are nothing more than an intimation that the package has been patched up by the officials, and those patching labels attest that fact, and have no relation whatever to postage paid, or unpaid.

And why does Gibbons put Oil Rivers in one part of the catalogue, and Niger Coast Protectorate, the same place, renamed, in another part. Better have put 'em all under his much loved "H."

I can see much that needs mending in Gibbons. All the same, I plump for good old Gibbons. Philately has never reached a higher watermark than it has in some of the splendid publications of this firm, under the able guidance of Major Evans.

Now, reverting to the collectable, I have been wondering whether our English Specialists will some day admit hand-stamps of value to their catalogues. I see no earthly reason why they should not. A manufacturer sends out a few thousand circulars. To save himself trouble of affixing stamps he ties them up in bundles and pays for the lot in one lump sum. The Post Office thereupon stamps each circular with a stamp showing where it was posted, the amount of postage paid, and the date of posting. That hand-stamp does duty for the adhesive, and tells the same story and more, and is, I contend, a postage stamp.

Personally, I find them most interesting, and fully believe that some day they will turn up trumps.

Another matter of the Catalogue is the very noticeable disproportion in the setting out of minor varieties. In one country, you will find them set out in the most exhaustive detail permissible in a general catalogue, yet in another equally deserving country the minor varieties are almost entirely ignored. Why? Of course the explanation is that the neglected country is simply waiting its turn to be

specialised. All the same, the defect is a flaw in the Catalogue, and should be removed.

In the dim and hazy future, which is going to be the favourite specimen, the used or the unused copy? A few years ago, collectors turned up their noses at an unused copy. In its unused form it was not in their opinion a full fledged postage stamp. To-day, the fashion tends the other way; the unused is the only perfect condition.

Indeed, the question is now becoming one as to whether the used stamp will not eventually go altogether out of fashion for the collector of unfathomable pocket? Some say yes, for why should a man keep a defaced specimen when he has the real article? At most, its only use is to establish the fact that it was actually put into circulation, and the ordinary records they contend will show that. Why, therefore, collect used if you can afford unused?

I don't know. I can only say that those who can afford it among our leading specialists don't consider they are complete unless they have every variety, both used and unused. This is how I arrange my specialist collection of Wadhwan, with its multitudinous varieties on thick and thin paper.

Again the Catalogue? I notice that they practically boycot all reference to the advertisements printed on the backs of the New Zealand postage stamps. I admit that those advertisements are abhorptions, and a disgrace to the issuing country. All the same, there they are, and they can no more be ignored in a properly constructed Catalogue, than the watermarks; for they are a part of the process of producing the stamp. It is not as if the labels were sold in large quantities to individual merchants to print their own advertisements. The advertisements were printed on the backs by the official printer, before the gum was applied, and they will yet have to be catalogued, for of course, no collector who pretends to be a collector of New Zealands, will be able to ignore them, and what is collected by leading collectors, will have to be catalogued sooner or later. I am in perfect sympathy with the denunciation of such abhorptions, but I don't see how we can escape the inevitable. If a petty-fogging State had started the advertisement business, collectors would have had to consider what they were going to do to put a stop to it. The advertisements on the New Zealands were not put on to make varieties for sale to collectors, yet they unquestionably constitute a variety; not only so, but I believe it will some day be recognised as a very interesting variety, as being, as it is so far, unique as curious evidence of what some governments will stoop to when they are financially hard up.

ALFRED JINGLE.



A "LIEUTENANT-COLONEL'S" PHILATELIC OPERATIONS.

(By our "Own" Reporter).

A CASE in which Lt. Col. A. Danby was charged with obtaining stamps on approval by means of false pretences, was tried at the Town Hall, Gravesend, at 11 o'clock, on Friday, September 28th.

Mr. J. P. Grain, instructed by Mr. E. H. Lickfold, appeared on behalf of the prisoner, whose real name was Joseph Alfred Skertchly, and who lived at 264, Richmond Road, N. He was accused of obtaining books of stamps, valued at £159 5s. 4½d., from various dealers, and assuming the character of a colonel in the Army with intent to fraud. He took rooms in 4, Albert Place, Whitfield Gardens, Gravesend, but never slept there. He informed the landlady that he was expecting registered letters; and he paid her 2/6 in order that no letters should be refused. On the card he gave to the landlady were the words "New York." He wrote sixty letters to various firms to induce them to send him

stamps. He had an office in London beneath Buhl & Co.'s offices. Field & Co., Buhl & Co., Kerr & Lanham, Sidney View & Co., Myerscough, and Alfred Williams, were the dealers he approached.

Rose Field, representative of Field & Co., was the first witness. A book was produced containing stamps sent on approval, value £47 os. 3d. Prisoner applied for book, and sent £2 on account. Theodor Buhl, the next witness, said he received £5 on account, and was thus induced to send stamps to the value of £10 6s. 1d. Prisoner asked for German States, Bremen, early Italian, &c., and said he wanted about £200 worth.

Mark Peat, representing Kerr & Lanham, sent stamps to the value of £6 16s. 5d. No deposit was sent with the order. He sent the goods because of the assumed name of Col. Danby.

John William Russell, representing Sidney View & Co., spoke to sending £14 9s. 10½d. value of stamps; £2 was sent on account in two £1 postal orders.

Henry Lampard, representing Messrs. Myerscough, said he sent £3 13s. 0d. worth of stamps without deposit.

William Henry Fletcher Elliot, trading as Alfred Williams, spoke to sending £1 9s. 6d. worth of stamps without deposit. The name induced him to send stamps.

THE DEFENCE.

George Darlington Simpson, the first witness for the defence, said he was Managing Director of West Australia Gold Syndicate, Lombard Street, and had given prisoner employment at a salary of £1,200 a year, and also an interest in the mine. He regarded the prisoner as a perfectly honorable, straightforward man.

A number of other persons spoke to the same effect, and Mr. J. P. Grain, summing up for the defence, characterised the charge as a groundless one. All the defendant had done had been to take an assumed name, and that was a thing that was done every day by the most respectable persons. Why, even one of the prosecutors in that very case traded under an assumed name.

In the end, the Bench declared the defendant not guilty, and the "Lieutenant-Colonel" was at once discharged.

STAMP DEALERS ON THE MOVE.

MESSRS. G. HAMILTON SMITH & Co. have taken new premises at No. 10, Bishopsgate St. Within, evidently with the intention of clearing out old City offices of their correspondence.—Mr. William Hadow, on the other hand, seems to have accomplished that feat, and now moves to Exeter St., No. 1, Strand, to find customers for his hauls.

WORSE THAN ST. MARTIN'S LE GRAND.

MESSRS. OETZMANN & Co., in a letter sent to the *Daily News*, write: "A letter sent to South America, from our Export Furniture Department, twelve years ago, has just been returned to us. The fault does not rest with our London Post Office, but with that of Bolivia, and offers, we are afraid, one more example of that persistent habit of postponement expressed by the habitual Spanish response, 'Manana,' to any demand for the performance of a duty. The letter was addressed to 'Signor Jose —, Bagos del Parian, No. —, San Luis Potosi, Bolivia, South America,' and was posted in London on September 8th, 1883. It has been returned to us with the General Post Office date stamp upon it of September 10th, 1895."

STAMPS THAT TEACH HISTORY.

"ST. PAUL'S" in describing the forthcoming commemoration stamps of Italy, remarks:—"You might think from this description that such a stamp would be rather larger than an ordinary letter, that you might have to stick the envelope on to it instead of it on to the envelope. As a matter of fact it is no larger than usual. If this kind of thing is developed much further, the occupation of historians will be gone. It won't be any good compiling volumes of history when seekers after information can get all they want from postage-stamps."

MOUNTING STAMPS WITHOUT HINGES.

We all have our ideas about albums. "Nage," a well known American writer, describes a unique book prepared by an old collector of his acquaintance. It is composed of cardboard sheets upon which tissue paper is pasted so as to be secured around the edges of the page only. Slits are then cut on

this tissue paper to accommodate the requisite number of stamps, and each stamp before it is placed on its slits bears two small additions, top and bottom, of pretty stiff paper, partly gummed, which retain the stamps in position. The stamps can be removed from the page at will, no hinges are required and moreover the appearance of the page is wonderfully neat.

HOW TO ANSWER CRITICS OF PHILATELY.

WHEN asked, "What are stamps in a collection good for?" a collector may well answer by asking some of the following questions in return: What are house plants good for? What is the use of valuable paintings? Why are collections made of minerals, natural and ethnological specimens? What are museums good for? Why do we look at all or think about things that we can neither eat, nor drink, nor wear? Most of the answers given to these questions may just as well be applied to stamps. They are good to look at, good to learn from, good to sell, &c. So writes Mr. L. G. Dorpat in his latest budget of "Notes for Philatelists."

THE IDEAL CATALOGUE—WHEN SHALL WE GET IT?

THIS question of the Ideal Catalogue, like that other question of the permanent album, is as old as the hills, or, at any rate, as old as philately. Major Evans turns to his file of *The Stamp Collectors' Magazine* and reminds us that as long ago as 1869 Mr. E. L. Pemberton was telling us how, in his opinion, the Ideal Catalogue should be compiled. It was at this time the London Philatelic Society commenced its monumental catalogue—upon which it is still at work! Some twenty years ago, the Major tells, the Société Française Timbrologique commenced a catalogue which was going to be more complete and more scientific than any other published, but, alas! that catalogue is less than half completed, and of late years seems to have been forgotten altogether. Then there is the excellent catalogue of Messrs. Collin & Calmen, which was commenced in September, 1869, and is still in the "R's." By the time that is finished, a new edition will be urgently wanted; and so one might go on compiling and bringing up to date. Major Evans suggests that some unemployed millionaire should take the work in hand.

AN ABSCONDING PHILATELIST.

ON Tuesday, September 10th, Leslie Walcott, a man of colour, was indicted at the London Sessions (Newington) for stealing or obtaining stamps by fraud, from Mr. Anderson, of Ealing. He got six months' hard labour and four months' hard labour for thefts of clothing—ten months in all. This is how he obtained the stamps:—Mr. Anderson advertised stamps for sale in the *Exchange and Mart*. Walcott wrote, asking for some to be sent on approval to him, and Mr. Anderson—not knowing the man—sent some common stamps, which were promptly returned with a request for some better ones. Mr. Anderson therefore sent him a book value £15; on the receipt of which Walcott wrote to say that he was going to Shefford, Bedfordshire, and would return the stamps when he and his friends down there had selected therefrom. He never did return them, however, and Mr. Anderson, on making enquiries, found he had gone to Sierra Leone.

DUTCH "ERRORS" (?)

WE read in the "Daily News" that at the Government stamp-printing works at Haarlem, a curious blunder has been made by someone in authority. Orders were given for a large number of five-cent stamps to be printed, and by mistake, the order was given to print in yellow the colour of the 3c. instead of blue, which is the ordinary colour of the 5c. stamps. Soon the mistake was discovered and the presses at once stopped. It was then found that some of the stamps had disappeared, although none had got into circulation in the regular way. Inquiries have been set on foot to discover the thief. The robbery must have been a profitable one, for it has been ascertained, that already a number of the missing stamps have found their way into the hands of a stamp dealer, who was glad to give fifty florins apiece for such rare specimens. It is quite evident that the above is not a genuine stamp from a philatelic point of view, as it was never issued, and it will not pay postage. Dealers who have paid £5 for this "thing" deserve to lose their money!

*The Secret Marks of
The Stamps of Switzerland—1843-1854.*

[This article was first published in 1893 by A. Larich, of Munich; the author, Freiherr C. v. Girsewald has kindly revised the German work for the special benefit of the readers of the "S. C. F."]

TRANSLATED BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 206.)

There appeared last year a new and very good forgery, which, fortunately, was soon detected, and which is known under the name of Ghisletti. In this forgery the 8 above the L does appear, but the s is too straight and the five in the



lower left corner is drawn with a head. It is queer however that in a counterfeit, skilfully done as this one is the two ugly arabesques, looking like bones, which are on either side of the genuine stamp, should have been left out.

Other counterfeits can be readily recognized; all the preceding marks are omitted; one of them has a much too large cross, another one has a too small cross framed in black; the inscriptions are usually in two large letters; some are not cancelled, some have the black lined cancellation mark, for example the Ghisletti counterfeit.

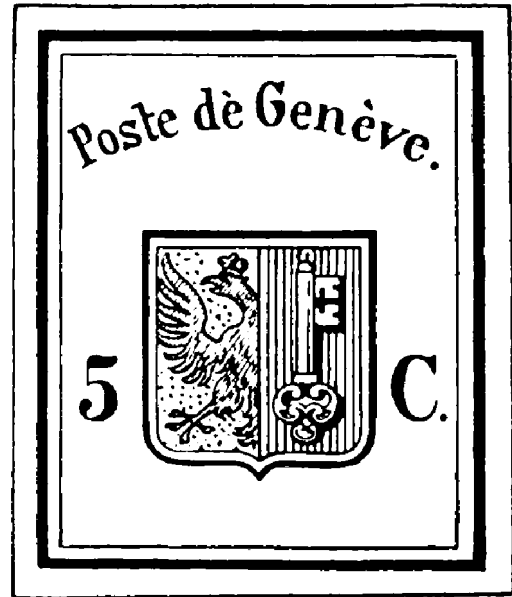
October, 1849.

4. 5 centimes, green on chamois.

Cut of the Geneva envelope used as a stamp.

When the Swiss Postal authorities assumed the management of the Geneva Post, there was on hand a large quantity of Geneva envelopes, and a law was passed that the stamps should be cut off from them and used as postage stamps. This is undoubtedly the first provisional stamp issued, and deserves to be placed among postage stamps if its genuineness can be proved beyond a doubt. The first requisite is that the stamp should be found on a whole letter, or on a large piece of one. These are very scarce; many specimens are found which were skilfully manipulated. They took Geneva envelopes with cancelled stamp, cut this off, then pasted it carefully on an envelope cancelled in 1849, whose common stamp had first been removed. Of course such stamps were selected whose postmark would fit or nearly so with the cancellation on the envelope. When buying such stamps great caution should be exercised and the stamp subjected to the very closest scrutiny; the cancellation mark should be visible on the back of the paper; the date, 1849,

must be plainly legible, the rosette stamp must be without a cross in the centre. Specimens in which the cancellation mark is visible on the stamp only should in the great majority of cases be rejected. In fact, the deciding whether such a specimen is a provisory or not is the most difficult task of the collector of Swiss stamps. We will now give a minute description of the cut, which will be found a material help in coming to a decision. The stamp was printed on the upper right corner of the envelope, leaving on the top and on the right a space of 1½ cm. of the chamois paper. When the cut was made it was done on the left and underneath with scissors, on the two other sides with a paper knife, the result being that the first two sides show a much cleaner cut than



the other two. The design is very similar to that of the green Geneva stamp. The print is light green, the paper is thin, tough and chamois coloured. The design measures 17.4 by 20.3 mm. On the coat of arms the following differences may be noticed in the foregoing issue. Four feathers of the eagle touch the frame. The back ground on which the eagle is drawn is dotted; the dots, however, are irregular, there are none on the top, nor on the right of the eagle's crown, nor on the left of its claws.

The key is larger than in other Geneva stamps. The right half of the coat of arms has 12 vertical lines, counted above the key. The key ends in a ball, and exactly over this ball is the 6th line, beginning to the left; this 6th line is short, and is the only one that does not touch the top line. The 5th and 7th lines are slightly curved to the right and left. The 12th line is the only one on the right of the key which intersects the coat of arms uninterrupted. The coat of arms ends below in a very sharp point. After the C there is a period. Over the e of the word de in the upper inscription there is a small stroke, sometimes a dot only.

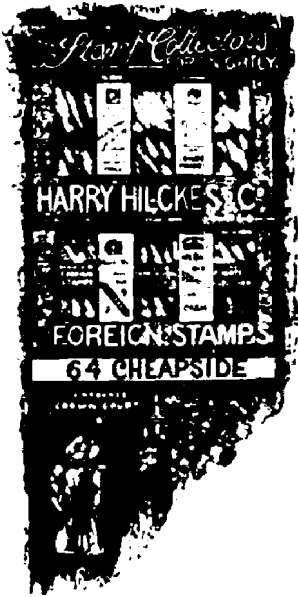
(To be continued).

Auction Records Beaten Again.

AT the sale held by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson on the 1st and 2nd October, some very tall prices were obtained. Lot 135, being Mauritius, 2d., post paid, a superb block of four on piece of original, magnificent margins, fine colours and impressions, fetched £210. This is, without a doubt, the biggest price ever realised in the London auctions for one single lot.

Those who have never visited a stamp sale should not hesitate to avail themselves of the many opportunities offered during the ensuing season. It is, without a doubt, the most genuine guarantee of the solid basis on which our hobby stands.

If you wish to receive the "S.C.F." regularly



If any proof were needed that our policy was universally accepted as the only one which honestly serves the interests of philately, the continued subscription-renewals, which have poured in ever since we published our last number, would be the surest sign that we are entirely at one with our readers. During the past few months we have received letters from all parts of the world expressing entire satisfaction with the "S.C.F.", and, what is more, helping us in obtaining new subscribers everywhere. This is encouraging indeed, and we have done our part in presenting to our readers with this number much more solid matter than before. Glancing through our advertisements it also becomes apparent that the conviction is slowly gaining ground that the "S.C.F." is

the best advertising medium in the United Kingdom for collectors and dealers alike.

The "Exact" Perforation Gauge has evidently caught on, as many orders have come to hand since publishing the advertisement. Naturally the idea of 1 perforations has tickled more than one philatelic writer. I do not wish for a moment to advocate the adoption of 1 perforations in the ordinary course of gauging stamps; but the "Exact" Perforation Gauge is chiefly meant to assist in the detection of forged perforations, and for that purpose I venture to say that a precise Gauge measuring all the 1's is an immense advantage to the student of philatelic fakes.

Dozens of our subscribers have asked us whether we publish an Index to the "FORTNIGHTLY." Of course we do, and particulars will be mentioned in our next number. A very pretty cover has been designed for the first volume price 1. postage 3d. extra. Any of our readers who wish to have their copies bound, can send them to this office together with a postal order 2/6, for which we will bind the book in one of the new covers, supply index and return the bound volume carriage paid.

HILCKES' AUCTION SUMMARY.

The Auction Supplement has been received with such universal favour, that I have decided to issue the same in book form, alphabetically arranged, thus giving a precise history of prices during the past season. The work of editing has been immense, as, in order to satisfactorily complete the work, the whole set of supplements had to be re-written. I have, however, cheerfully undertaken the work, as such a guide is urgently wanted, the style of similar books published during the last three or four years being of a very unsatisfactory character. Only a limited edition is being printed. The price will be 2/6 post free. Page advertisements can be accepted at the rate of £2 per insertion, cheque with order. Half-page, 25s. The book will be ready by the end of October, at latest—if possible before that date. Orders are being booked now, and will be filled in rotation as long as the edition lasts.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.

I HAVE frequently been approached to give "special" terms. Be it understood, once and for all, that I cannot on

any account quote other terms but those mentioned on last page of every issue of the "FORTNIGHTLY."

HARRY HILCKES.

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING OCT. 19th.

All News for this column must reach the office first post on Wednesday previous to date of publication.

Auction Sales.

Oct. 9th & 10th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Hall, Charing Cross, at 5 p.m. each day.

Oct. 14th.—Mr. Wm. Hallow, at the Arbitration Room, at 6 p.m.

Oct. 15th & 16th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, at 6 p.m. each day.

Stamping Collection.

The following countries are now on view in the King's Library, British Museum: St. Vincent, Tobago, Trinidad, Turks Islands, Virgin Islands, Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone.

City of London Club.

Fortnightly Meetings at 121, Cheapside, Cossavella's Restaurant, every other Thursday, at 7.30 p.m. **No Meeting, Oct. 10th.**

The Annual Meeting will be advertised in the next issue of the "S.C.F."

London Philatelic Exchange.

Oct. 8th.—121, Cheapside, E.C., Cossavella's Restaurant.



** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

EDALEA, VIVEA.—Your postcard re G on 3d. 1870, came to hand but as you did not state the plate number, it was of course of no use to us for chronicling purposes. Your question re index and volume is answered in another column.

E.G.W. (Bath).—We thought it was well known that our "Catalogue of English Stamps," contained certain errors; our second edition now in preparation, will however, have all these errors rectified. It would be useless therefore at the present moment to issue a list of corrections.

H.H.P. (Brownswood Park).—You are quite right. The paragraph, "Philatelic Events," was crowded out of our last issue; in future it will duly appear. The 8c. Straits Settlements, with postmark dated 5th April, 1866, is a puzzle to us, since the stamp was not issued until '67. We wonder whether any of our readers could explain this. Of course if the stamp was issued in 1866, that would explain it at once. We will once more give the means of making watermarks more distinct. Put the stamps face downwards, on a black piece of smooth matter, and then apply with a fine camel hair brush, pure benzine till the stamp is quite transparent. The watermark will at once stand out quite distinctly.

G.N. (Chesham).—We have so far only seen the 3d. and 1d. of the new Transvaal stamps with two shafts instead of a pole to the waggon in central design.

R.P.J. (Hereford). We have in contemplation an article showing the difference of type in the French Republic stamps. It would take too much space to explain the difference here, but if you will carefully compare the heads of the Bordeaux prints, with those of the French Colonials, you will see an appreciable variation in the head of Liberty.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, OCTOBER 5, 1895.



BETWEEN OURSELVES.

As this number begins a new volume a few words as to how "Looking Forward." we shall try to improve the "FORTNIGHTLY" will not be out of place. The appearance of the paper will not be

altered to any great extent, and only where we have found that alteration would be advantageous to the interests of our subscribers will such alterations be made.

"PHILATELIC PERSONALITIES" will be conducted in precisely the same way as in the past; this has proved a very popular feature.

"GOSSIP OF THE HOUR," by Mr. Alfred Jingle, has been so well received, that we have called upon this gentleman to keep up the excellent standard of his articles for the benefit of our readers.

"PHILATELY AT HOME" and "PHILATELY ABROAD" will as hitherto contain comments on topics touched upon by our contemporaries, but it will be necessary sometimes to leave out either the "At Home" or the "Abroad" as the exigencies of space demands it.

"BETWEEN OURSELVES" will be conducted on precisely the same lines as heretofore. Whatever abuses or frauds come under our notice will be ruthlessly exposed, whether such exposure affects the highest or the lowest in the philatelic world. We try to be just in our remarks, albeit our comments may seem harsh upon first perusal. We care nothing about the feeling of the "stamp" trade in general towards us. Those who honestly wish for the welfare of philately must necessarily be on our side; those who are not on our side must be against the best interests of philately. Although we have attacked a good many abuses and frauds during the past year, not once have we been proved to be in error. We certainly expect to err sometimes, since to err is human and editors are as human as anybody. Every care is exercised to verify the statements we make, and, once made, our statements may be relied upon. The law in this country unfortunately protects the rogues; but we think we have proved in the past that to attain our object we do not fear even that august being, the Judge of the High Court. As might have been expected we have been threatened with actions all through the year, but at threats our ill-wishers have generally stopped.

Our "AUCTION SUPPLEMENT" will not, as hitherto, be added to the paper as a separate sheet, since we have decided to enlarge the "FORTNIGHTLY" to twelve pages permanently, the Auction Supplement forming the last two pages in the paper. The Supplement will run on precisely the same lines as hitherto, and the two experienced philatelists who compile it will exercise every care that their work is absolutely correct.

By adding four pages to our paper we gain room for a new feature—"Reviews." As long ago as 1890, as stated before in these columns, the writer conducted a "Review of Reviews" in a German periodical (*Die Illustrierte Briefmarken-Zeitung*). We had then the misfortune to unfavourably review the *P.J.G.B.* This drew forth a two page letter from the publisher, in which he stated that his attention had been drawn to our reviews by his agent in Germany. A few months after this occurrence a *Philatelic Review of Reviews* was added to the *P.J.G.B.* It will therefore be seen that the idea was practically borrowed from the German periodical. As we have engaged the well-known philatelist, Mr. E. J. Nankivell, to conduct this review for the "FORTNIGHTLY," and as we did not wish it to appear that we borrowed the idea from the *P.J.G.B.*, we thought it necessary to state the above facts. We publish Mr. Nankivell's first instalment in this number, and trust it will be accepted by our readers as a proof that we wish to make the "FORTNIGHTLY" even more indispensable to them than it is already.

"FORGERS AND THEIR WORK" will be conducted the same as before. It will appear in future not every fortnight, but every other fortnight.

The "SECRET MARKS OF SWITZERLAND" will also be continued, and will also appear every other number. We have done this with a view of giving more each time, instead of the small instalments which we were obliged to dole out owing to want of space.

"OUR FORUM," which has proved so popular a department during the year, will still be open to our readers. It will be conducted in a perfectly impartial spirit. We want to "hear all sides," and those who do not agree with our opinions are invited to write and say so.

"ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS" will be carefully attended to. No one need be afraid of writing to the editors. It is sometimes a severe strain to read and reply to every letter, but we do so cheerfully, realising gratefully that many a valuable hint has been conveyed to us through the letters we receive from subscribers.

The pretty little drawings for each feature are specially designed by a member of our staff.

ARTICLES on special subjects are in active preparation. We shall always be happy to receive contributions from philatelists, and, if of any real value, shall be very glad to pay for same. It is our intention, as soon as our subscription list and the receipts for advertisements will allow, to increase the paper to sixteen pages. Every one of our readers can help us to attain that object by showing the paper to his friends and inducing them to subscribe. Contrary to the expectations of our friend, the enemy, the "FORTNIGHTLY" not only *pays* at the present moment, but the loss it sustained in the first six numbers has been wiped out. Every number shows a profit, and we hope will go on doing so in the future.—H.H.

* * *

On next page we give an interview with Messrs. Senf Bros.

The spiteful and absolutely uncalled-for attack of Mr. C. J. Phillips requires more than passing notice, especially as it was directed against a firm with which we have been acquainted for many years, and who were established long before Mr. C. J. Phillips had any connection with stamps. We have therefore taken the trouble to personally converse with Messrs. Senf and the result of this interview appears in the present number. Of course it was quite obvious that Mr. Phillips' attack was made with the object of discrediting Messrs. Senf's work in favour of his own catalogue. He was evidently aware that his own production was many miles behind that of the German firm.

H. H.

✂ The Truth about Senf's Catalogue. ✂

MR. PHILLIPS' STATEMENTS REFUTED SERIATIM BY MR. RICHARD SENF.

[BY SPECIAL DESPATCH FROM PERCY C. BISHOP.]

Leipzig, 30th September.

AFTER twenty-seven hours' travelling, one is not in a condition to be easily impressed. I had been told in advance that Gebrüder Senf, of Leipzig, had a big business and a big building to do it in; but my surprise may be better imagined than described when I found premises which cannot be called other than palatial, and a business which for clockwork systemisation (if that word will do) and sheer hugeness beats everything I have ever seen in the stamp world. When I had the pleasure of inspecting Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' new premises at 391, Strand, on behalf of the *P.F.G.B.*, I went so far, I think, as to declare that it was the biggest thing in philately; but at that time I had not seen the premises of the Leipzig firm, beside which, it must be said, 391 Strand pales into insignificance.

The first person I ran against at 4, Eilenburger Strasse this morning was Mr. Theodor Haas, the able editor of the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal*, to whom my best thanks are due for his courtesy in satisfying the whole range of my inquisitiveness as regards the Senf business.

When my inspection of the premises was concluded, a description of which will follow in our next issue,

MR. RICHARD SENF

made his appearance, and I was introduced to the leading dealer in Germany, who is a man of striking appearance with a face full of character and a manner which betokens energy and business shrewdness of a high order.

After Mr. Richard Senf and I had conversed for some little time without in the least understanding one another, the services of an interpreter were requisitioned, and then all was plain sailing.

"What is your view of this attack on your Catalogue by the *Monthly Journal*?" I asked the head of the firm.

"Well, I will tell you as briefly as possible, and then you can publish it in your paper, so that the English public may have both sides of the question. It was in the *Monthly*

Journal that the first attack appeared, and then afterwards Mr. William Brown had much the same sort of thing to say in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*. The author of the first review was Mr. Charles J. Phillips, and this is the fact that surprises me more than anything else. Mr. Phillips has frequently called on us in Leipzig, and as a result of our personal intercourse, we regarded him as a gentleman in the fullest sense of the word. Therefore we are quite taken aback by the spiteful tone of his attack, an attack which is not that of a gentleman at all, and which is not wanting in personal shafts against our firm. Why Mr. Phillips has done this is not clear to us.

"Now as to the contents of the review: At the beginning, already, Mr. Phillips makes the bold statement that in hundreds of cases we knowingly under-rated stamps in order to buy them at low rates. Here we must state that for the great majority of collectors the prices for common and medium stamps are always the same in the catalogues of Senf, Stanley Gibbons, and Scott.

"The differences which Mr. Phillips alludes to are therefore only those that occur in the prices of rarities. For the last few years we have recruited our stock so amply as regards rarities that we shall for months, if

not for a year, leave off buying them altogether, single cases excepted. Mr. Phillips seems to be better instructed about our business transactions than we are ourselves, or—is he judging other people by himself? As we have not yet had many transactions with his firm we are not able to answer the latter question affirmatively or negatively.

"Mr. Phillips seems to regard as a corroboration of his assertion, a few words said to have been uttered by me, in the course of a conversation at the philatelic convention of Mannheim. Putting aside the fact that it is very dangerous to pass judgment upon certain words without regard to context, Mr. Phillips ought to have been doubly cautious with the critic of a competitor's work, as in such cases all malig-



You won't rue it.

nity is attributed to personality. I cannot remember having used the quoted words, and certainly never should have used them in the sense implied. They have been accommodated to the use of the *Monthly Journal*.

"The same is the case with the first example of the alleged underpricing, Prussia, 1857, 28gr. on solid ground. This matter has been represented in quite a false light. In Mannheim, I carried with me a common copy, which I offered for less than catalogue value, M.375, also an unsevered pair for M.1200, very fine specimens, and with faultless gum. Everbody who knows how exceedingly rare a pair of fine specimens is, will not find the price of M.1200 too high. I did not offer a *single* copy for M.600.—Mr. Phillips has therefore been grossly imposed upon. He may buy both copies still to-day at the stated prices."

"See, here they are!" and Mr. Senf showed me the identical stamps, in the same book that he carried with him to Mannheim.

"About Nevis, 6d., lithographed, Mr. Phillips reports very incompletely." Mr. Senf went on, "although his somewhat dark authority from Mannheim should have instructed him better. I sold three copies of these stamps at catalogue price in Mannheim, and I was also very glad to sell them for £9 10s. The same buyer then offered me a much higher price if I could procure him some more copies in good condition. To comply with this wish, we addressed ourselves to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, before they brought out their Catalogue, of which we got proof sheets. Nevertheless we did not get a single copy, although their Catalogue is said to contain only prices of stamps which are really in stock, and as it had not yet been published, the Nevis stamps could not have been sold. This example proves how unjustifiable were the attacks of Mr. Phillips and Mr. Brown.

"In our Catalogue we ask for Nevis, 6d., lithograph, £9 10s.; Stanley Gibbons ask £10; a speculator offers us £15, in order to sell the stamps at £18 himself. Which price is now the right one? According to Phillips and Brown the latter, as it is the highest. Mr. Brown, especially, always finds for all stamps the highest prices, which, at auction sales or anywhere else, have been paid by one of the upper ten. Of what importance this is for stating prices the following example may prove: Mr. Phillips pretends that our price of £37 10s. for Ceylon, 4d., first issue, imperf., unused, is by far too low, as lately at an auction sale this stamp had been sold for £130. We are able to prove that shortly after this auction a known English dealer offered us the same stamp *under* catalogue value, referring at the same time to the high price paid at the auction. It seems that the few collectors who pay such enormous prices for these stamps were already provided, and the price was therefore reduced.

"As a consequence of these experiences we resolved not to chronicle prices which at auction sales and other occasions were produced as records of the world, but only good average prices, which may guide the collector better than speculative prices, which in the course of a few weeks rise or fall enormously.

"We may add that nearly all the prices criticised by Mr. Phillips are those appertaining to unused specimens. If it is taken into consideration that the collecting of unused stamps in spite of the big fuss made by many dealers, is yet in its infancy and at best of times can only be the hobby of the very richest, it appears tolerably clear that an exact valuation of unused stamps is excessively difficult. It is therefore extremely easy for any one to pronounce any given price wrong, and we can with equal truth declare that the prices given in Stanley Gibbons' catalogue are far too low. It will be impossible to prove either statement as owing to the very small stock of rare unused stamps extant, it is generally left to the sweet will of the dealer, to ask what he is likely to get from his prospective customer. In so many cases the preservation of the original gum in its virgin state may mean 50 per cent. difference in the value of the stamp.

"We know very well that we are not infallible, and that our quotations contain faults which, if criticised in a reasonable spirit, shall always be rectified. To effect this the easier, we always try to communicate directly with the reviewers

to obtain further information. However, we shall always defend ourselves energetically against spiteful and unjust attacks as those levelled at us by Messrs. Phillips and Brown, especially if the pitiable reasons for such an attack are so obvious, as in the case of Mr. Phillips."

So much for Mr. Richard Senf. I now proceed to give a description of the immense business of the Leipzig firm.

(To be continued.)



AT LAST—

THE public objects to the serious inconvenience caused by those speculators who have jumped at any provisional issue recently turned out by the various Governments in South Africa. This is what we read in the *Financial News*:—

Johannesburg is veritably a city of booms. "We have," writes our Johannesburg correspondent, "our booms in gold stock, in coal stock, in stands, in skittles and in scandals. This week the monotony has been further relieved by a boom in penny stamps. For some time past there has been a shortage of stamps of the denominations most in use, and when this week the Government issued its new issue in celebration of the opening of the Delagoa Bay line, the rush on them was so great that within three hours, both at Pretoria and in Johannesburg the whole supply (some thousands of pound's worth) was sold out to enterprising philatelists, the common or garden penny variety speedily standing at the enormous premium of elevenpence. The situation may have had its humours, but it certainly had its inconveniences also. In a busy centre such as this, stamps are naturally a very indispensable necessity, and the merchants and others who found themselves either compelled to pay fabulous prices for ordinary stamps, to forego their mail, or, as a last desperate expedient, to post their correspondence unstamped, are now asking—not however, with any intention of putting the question to the test—whether they have not a legitimate claim for damages against the Postal Department of the State."

We hope they have. That would soon stop these reckless issues.

WORK FOR INDIAN PHILATELISTS.

THAT admirable paper, *The Philatelic World*, in making a graceful acknowledgment of the compliment paid to Indian philately by our interview with Mr. C. F. Larmour, goes into the question of the literary work that might be done by members of the philatelic community in Calcutta. The excellent suggestion is made that the Philatelic Society of Bengal (of which Mr. Larmour is an active member) might well prepare an exhaustive work on the issues of Imperial India. Doubtlessly the idea will be taken up, and Calcutta will finish what has been so admirably commenced by our own leading society.

IMPORTATION OF STAMPS INTO INDIA.

MANY letters are appearing in *The Englishman*, and other leading Indian newspapers, from the pens of Indian philatelists, warmly protesting against the tax imposed upon stamps imported into India. Unfortunately, all the letter writing in the world will not remedy the difficulty. What is wanted is an alteration in the law, which, as at present framed, clearly allows the imposition of an *ad valorem* duty.

THE TENTH A.P.A. CONVENTION.

MEMBERS of the American Philatelic Association, the leading Society in the States, met at Clayton, N.Y., on August 13th, for their 10th Annual Convention, which passed off most satisfactorily. Forty-six members were present in all. The reports presented were, with one exception, all that could be wished; valuable papers were read, and, owing largely to the admirable directed efforts of the chairman, Mr. Eugene Thwing, all unpleasantness which had arisen during the election campaign were removed. The results of the election were as follows: President, J. K. Tiffany; Vice-president, Alvah Davison; Treasurer, N. W. Chandier;

Secretary, C. W. Kissinger; International Secretary, W. C. Stone; Exchange Superintendent, G. D. Mekeel; Examiner of Stamps, H. Flachsmann; Librarian, H. E. Deats; Literary Exchange Manager, G. N. Campbell; Counterfeit Detector, J. W. Scott; Auction Agents, A. W. Batchelder, Boston; W. F. Gregory, New York; W. Sellschopp, San Francisco. All the resident vice-presidents were re-elected, with the addition of J. M. Andreim for New York.

STAMPS IN THE NORTH WEST PROVINCES.

THE latest new ground to be broken by the spirit of philately is the North West Provinces of India. A society called "The North West Philatelic Exchange Club," has just been formed, with Lieut. T. E. Madden of the 17th Bengal Infantry for its honorary secretary. We note that the number of members is to be unlimited, and that gentlemen resident in any country are eligible.

A SET BACK FOR LOG ROLLERS.

WE notice with great satisfaction that the *Weekly Philatelic Era* has a word to say against the log-rolling by American philatelic writers, of which we have often complained. It others would follow Mr. W. W. Jewett's lead in this matter, the system by which such youths as Kissinger are boomed into notoriety would soon be "scotched."

UGANDA LABELS.

ONE more addition to our stamp album. This time the new baby hails from Uganda. Some most curious labels have been submitted to us by Mwanga, the king of Uganda, for the prepayment of letters from Uganda to Mombassa. They are done by the typewriter (see annexed illustration). The figure in the centre indicates the number of shells required to pay the postage, shells being the currency of the country. We have seen the following values: 5, 10, 20, 30, and 60. Part of the specimens submitted to us are on pieces of original letters. Our correspondent informs us that a design of the King's head has been sent to London, and a second issue of the Uganda Locals will be executed in a more elaborate style. Of course the above locals are of little interest to philatelists, and on a par with the Abyssinian locals recently discussed in these columns.

HEAD CENTRES OF PHILATELY IN CANADA.

PHILATELY, we are told by Mr. Raymond S. Baker, is growing in Canada. Toronto is the chief philatelic centre. Toronto once enjoyed the patronage of that arch-fraud, A. B. Onigley, alias Lewis Bishop, and alias goodness knows what else. Montreal is another good stamp city, and at Montreal the memory of the unfortunate John R. Hooper, who is suspected of being more sinned against than sinning, is held in sympathetic recollection. Montreal, too, boasts the honor of being the birthplace of Canada's first philatelic magazine—*The Stamp Collectors' Record*, issued as long ago as 1864. Other Canadian cities in which stamp collecting is rife are London, Quebec, (there is an excellent society known as the Quebec Philatelic Club), Ottawa, Hamilton, St. John, (where the Coombs Bros., of faking notoriety, had their home), Halifax, and last, but not least, Charlotte Town, the capital of Prince Edward Island.

The article in the *Eastern Philatelist*, in which Mr. Baker tells us all this, is full of interesting points, but, as a matter of fact, the rapid extension of philately in the Dominion has been brought home to us already by the increased number of Canadian philatelists figuring in our subscription list.

STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ABROAD.

HERE is a genial "knock" for the "S.C.F." "New words are being evolved rapidly," writes Mr. L. G. Dorpat in *Mekeel's Weekly*. "After gumbg and gumpap comes anti-gumpaper. The next probably is anti-gumpaperism! Beware philatelists, lest philologists declare war against you for issuing "unnecessary words!"

In 1894, Mr. George S. Seymour points out, there were 123 "unnecessary" surcharges, and of these France and her colonies furnished 62.

QUEENSLAND is going in for a 5d. adhesive. Curious, isn't it, that many Colonies besides Queensland have no 5d. stamp, which, as the rate for over-sea postage on one ounce letters would seem to be a very necessary denomination.

A CORRESPONDENT informs us that a new German chocolate bears one or more foreign stamps on each wrapper as a device to attract attention and doubtless as an inducement to purchasers.



OUR FORUM

INVERTED WATERMARK.

DEAR SIRs.—In your Catalogue of English Adhesives, I see you do not note the 24d. blue of 1881, plate 21, with inverted watermark, although you do plates 22 and 23. Why is this? The stamp certainly exists as I have a copy in my collection. It is postmarked "Glasgow—MY.30—81."

An answer in the correspondence columns of the "S.C.F." will oblige.

90, Queen's Road.

Yours truly,

Finchbury Park, London, N.

W. H. CHETWIN.

A DISCLAIMER.

DEAR SIRs.—Allow us through the medium of your valuable paper to express our deep thanks to all those members of the Trade and the scores of private collectors—to whom it would be impossible to write individually—who have written us letters of sympathy concerning the unsubstantiated charges made against us in a well-known "weekly," the facts stated being founded on the statements of a pack of school-boys who have jointly sent the editor of the weekly referred to a parcel of stamps described "as from our house," but as we have only had one small dealing at Holm Villa (the address given) and as this deal did not contain the stamps the editor mentions, since we have never had a Cashmere reprint in stock the philatelic public may be the best judges of the value of such assertions. At the same time we beg to assure our customers that we shall continue to trade on precisely the same lines as hitherto adopted by us, namely: no reprints will ever be supplied to our customers without their being distinctly described as such both in our price list and on the envelope containing them. We are, dear Sirs,

Yours respectfully,

Sept. 26th, 1895.

FISHER, TITLEY & Co.

We gladly insert the above letter. When we read the notice in question we were somewhat surprised, as we had never heard the slightest complaint about Messrs. F. T. & Co. We hope that the "Weekly," in question will make full amends for their somewhat rash statement. — ED.

STANLEY GIBBONS' CATALOGUE.

GENTLEMEN,—I do not know whether I shall be breaking any of the laws of journalistic etiquette if I venture to make a suggestion with regard to your review (if you are going to write a review) of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' new Catalogue. As one who takes special interest just now in the stamps of Chili, I turned to the Chili page of my new Gibbons, and what was my surprise to find that in the whole column of prices for Chilean stamps, no indication whatever is given of the styles of perforation employed in the various issues. Do you not think this a most serious sin of omission?

Yours in philately,

Wandswoth, 16th September, 1895.

"CHILE."

What Will Mr. Chas. J. Phillips Say to This?

HARRY HILCKES, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—I have perused the letters from several disappointed purchasers of the "best priced Catalogue in the world" with much sympathy and fellow feeling, and, whilst fully endorsing the complaints of the writers thereof, it appears to me that there is one other very serious indictment against the so-called Catalogue that has not been touched upon by your correspondents.

This Catalogue purports to be specially and "chiefly improved" by six mentioned counts, to which special attention is drawn. You will note that in the introduction, under "improvement," No. 5, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., hold forth thus:—"(5) Entirely new reference lists of some of the most important countries, amongst which we may specially mention GREAT BRITAIN, in which shades, prominent varieties, and plate numbers of the Stamps, both Postal and Telegraph, as well as the sizes and other minutiae relating to Envelopes, Wrappers, Postcards, Registered Envelopes, &c., have been given, and prices assigned in accordance with the correct market value."

May I ask Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., through the medium of your (or shall I say *our*) paper, which is the "correct market value" of the following Stamps:—the first column (A) is the number, stamp, and price given in the first part of the Catalogue, and the second column (B) is the price quoted under heading "Plate Numbers," on page 117 and following pages.

The glaring discrepancies speak for themselves, but those stamps which I have marked with an asterisk are especially interesting as offering a nice problem as to which price Messrs. S. G., Ltd., intend to sell at (OF COURSE the cheaper in each case), and I would also like to know how many unused specimens of the sixpence, purple, of 1867, Messrs. S. G. have in stock, and which they quote at 25/- on page 114, but which they are unable to supply on page 119.

With apologies for trespassing on so much of your valuable space,

Yours very faithfully,

THE TROSSACHS, GORDON ROAD, SOUTH WOODFORD,

GRANT R. FRANCIS.

September 27th, 1895.

Ref. No.	Date.	Stamp.	Colour.	Watermark.	A		Plate Number, List Description.	B				
					Unused.	Used.		Unused.	Used.			
					s.	d.			s.	d.		
76	1862	Three pence	carmine-rose	Emblems	..	4 0	} carmine, plate (2) ..	7	6	2	6	
78	"	"	pale ditto	"	6 0	2 0						
84	"	Six pence	deep lilac	"	15 0	0 6	} lilac, plate (3) ..	10	6	0	3	
85	"	"	lilac	"	10 6	0 4						
87	"	Nine pence	bistre	"	15 0	4 0	} bistre, plate (2) ..	10	0	4	0	
90	"	One shilling	deep green	"	15 0	1 0						
91	"	"	green	"	12 0	0 9	} green, plate (1) ..	12	0	1	3	
93	1865	Three pence	rose	"	15 0	2 0						
103	"	One shilling	green	"	15 0	0 8	} green, plate 4 ..	15	0	1	0	
104	1867	Three pence	deep rose	Spray	6 0	2 6						
105	"	"	rose	"	6 0	2 6	} rose, plate 4 .. ditto 5 .. ditto 6 .. ditto 7 .. ditto 8 .. ditto 9 .. ditto 10 .. lilac, plate 6 .. purple, plate 6 .. bright violet, plate 6 .. straw, plate 4 ..	60	0	2	6	
									7	6	0	6
									6	0	0	6
									17	6	1	0
									8	0	1	0
									15	0	1	0
									15	0	1	0
									12	6	1	0
									25	0	2	6
									50	0	7	6
113	"	Nine pence	pale straw	"	15 0	2 0	} straw, plate 4 ..	7	6	2	6	
114	"	Ten pence	red-brown	"	20 0	3 6						
115	"	"	pale ditto	"	15 0	2 6	} red-brown, plate 1 ..	12	6	1	6	
115a	"	"	deep ditto	"	30 0	5 0						
116	"	One shilling	deep green	"	40 0	1 6	} green, plate 4 .. ditto 5 .. ditto 6 .. ditto 7 ..	6	6	0	6	
117	"	"	green	"	7 6	0 9			12	0	1	0
118	"	"	pale green	"	7 6	0 9			25	0	3	0
									30	0	3	0
123	"	Six pence	deep chestnut	"	15 0	2 6	} deep chestnut, plate 11 ..	12	6	2	6	
125	"	"	pale ditto	"	25 0	3 6			25	0	2	6
126	"	"	grey	"	12 0	1 6	} grey, plate 12 ..	12	6	1	6	
127	"	Five shillings	rose	Maltese Cross	45 0	2 6			60	0	3	0
128	"	"	pale rose	"	45 0	3 0	} pale rose, plate 2 ..	60	0	2	6	
139	1873	Two pence ½d.	lilac-rose on bl.	Anchor	12 6	2 6			12	6	1	6
140	"	"	lilac-rose	"	10 6	1 0	} lilac-rose on white, plate 1 ditto 2 ditto 3	20	0	1	6	
									20	0	1	3
									30	0	1	6
141	1876	"	lilac-rose	Orb	5 0	0 4	} (In all the plate Nos. of the Orb wmk., Nos. 3 to 17, no such prices appear). blue, wmk. orb, plate 17.. ditto 18.. ditto 19.. ditto 20..					
142	1880	"	blue	"	5 0	0 6			7	6	1	0
									7	6	0	8
									6	0	0	6
									4	6	0	6
151	1880	One shilling	orange-brown	"	30 0	5 0	} orange-brown, plate 13 ..	30	0	5	9	
152	1876	Four pence	vermilion	Large Garter	25 0	5 0			25	0	3	6
154	1880	"	drab	"	25 0	4 6	} grey-brown, plate 17 ..	20	0	4	6	
162	1883	Three pence	lilac	Crown	2 0	0 9			2	6	0	6
164	1880	Six pence	grey	"	5 0	1 6	} grey, plate 17 ..	6	0	1	0	
165	"	"	lilac	"	3 6	0 9			2	6	0	9

Our Review of Reviews.

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

Early New Zealand Stamps.

THE September number of the *London Philatelist* contains a short paper by Mr. A. T. Bate on the early New Zealand Stamps, with notes by Mr. E. D. Bacon, who summarises Mr. Bate's information as follows:—

From the foregoing letters it will be seen that Mr. J. Richardson commenced printing the stamps on the 5th November, 1855, and that by the 13th December of that year, 29,016 of the One Penny had been struck off. These figures are not divisible by 240, the number of stamps on each of the three plates, so it seems probable that 24 of the specimens were defective in some way, and were, in consequence removed from the sheets. The number is also much in excess of that authorised for the One Penny, viz.: 1,200, and no mention is made of Twopenny and One Shilling stamps, which were also ordered with the lowest value. I cannot help thinking that if further search is made by Mr. Bate, particulars will be found of printings of the Twopenny, if not of the One Shilling, as I believe the former value, at any rate, must have been locally printed in December, 1855.

Our own J.P. on Stamp Thieves.

In an editorial in the same number of the *London Philatelist*, Mr. Castle, recently made a J.P., relieves his feelings on stamp thieves in general and their ways in particular. After calling them "chameleonic reptiles," "miscreants," "*chevaliers d'industrie*," and other names too terrible to mention in these pages, the new J.P. exposes their ways as follows:—

The 'plot' is simple in the extreme! Unbounded self-assurance and prolific mendacity are necessarily part of our Philatelic swindler's character. The public is speedily invited to also accredit him with all manner of virtues and possessions Philatelic, through the ready medium of copious advertisements. Collectors and dealers are made familiar with his name and person; he secures admission, cleverly enough, into respectable societies, pays freely for small purchases, and rapidly increases and widens his connections and liabilities, until he is indebted to various people for such large sums that it is worth his while to decamp, and re-commence operations as a new man in another quarter of the globe.

Any way, if he is wise, the stamp thief will be careful to steer clear of the jurisdiction of the new J.P.

Proposed Farthing Rate.

Mr. Westoby, in the September *Philatelic Record*, contends that there is need of reform in our newspaper rate. He informs us that no newspaper has more than half-a-pound of text. The extra weight up to one-and-a-half pounds and over, he says, is made up of advertisements. Therefore, he asks:

What good reason can there be that the half-penny rate should not be limited to the first half-pound? and by way of compensation to the public, matter wholly printed might be admitted to pass at a farthing rate, when under 10z. in weight, the delivery of which might be confined to one post per day.

Of course we plump for Mr. Westoby's farthing rate, but we are a little fogged by his statement as to the weight of text advertisements in every newspaper; we had no idea advertisements were so uniformly successful.

Chinese Locals.

The *American Journal of Philately*, in replying to a correspondent, puts the case against the collectibility of Chinese Locals very clearly, thus:—

The argument that each one of the Treaty towns requires a proper service is answered by the statement coming from various of the cities in question, that the postal service, run under the auspices of the Chinese Customs Department, is thoroughly satisfactory, and meets all the wants of the small white settlements in the various treaty-ports of China. The chief point of objection to these issues lies in the almost absolute certainty that not a single one of the stamps would have been printed, if it were not for the fact that an enormous revenue is expected from the sale to collectors. We feel sure that every town outside Shanghai would make an enormous loss if the revenue of the new postal service were to be derived entirely from the forwarding of letters, and we beg to doubt that the public

spirit of the residents of any of the various towns is sufficiently developed to induce them to spend large sums of money for the purpose of having a postal service, for the use of anywhere, from 25 to 500 white residents.

Shifted Die of the U.S. 3c., 1851.

The Editor of *The Post Office* (New York), an able specialist of U.S. issues, announces in his August number, an interesting discovery made by him lately in examining three cent stamps of the issue of 1851. He says:—

It has been shown very positively that the entire outer line of this stamp was drawn upon the plates before the central design was transferred to them from the die. These plate lines are shown on page 8 of *Minor Varieties*. We have found several different stamps of this 3c. type, printed from plates in which there had been a misplacing of the die. The die had been set in its position on the plate, "rocked" enough to make a slight impression, when it was seen that it was out of place a little. It was then placed correctly, and a full impression made on the plate. Stamps from this shifted die show the outer line, belonging at the bottom of the stamp, running through the words THREE CENTS, near the bottom; while through their centre runs the red ink, which, on the ordinary stamp, is seen just below the THREE CENTS. The interesting thing is that this corroborates the statement of an engraver, who asserted that the outer line was engraved on the die.

Truly, for the insatiable specialist, U.S.A. is fast becoming the ideal country.

Sale of the Belgian 5fr. Stamps.

The *Stamp News* for August, gives the following interesting figures and facts concerning the sale of the much-talked of discovery by the authorities of a large stock of the obsolete 5fr. stamps of Belgium.

The sale of the 2,400 five francs Belgian stamps has taken place, and the tenders, which were publicly opened and announced, are rather curious reading. As will be seen by the following, there were seven offers for the entire parcel, varying from 600 to 40,000 francs.

	No. of Stamps.	Francs.
J. Figuet, Paris	2400	600
J. A. Boks, Anvers	2400	755
J. Figuet, Paris	500	200
Ch. Van Hoeck, Gand	50	50
Bergner, Rodeburg	100	200
Th. Dellisse, Ixelles	200	200
Jules Kams, Athus	50	200
Bogert and Durbin, New York ..	50	250
De Sandt, Neuilly	50	300
Jules Kams, Athus	50	300
A. Carpentier, Gand	50	306
Becker Sohn, St. Jean près Saarbrück ..	2400	15600
Moermans, Bruxelles	50	350
Bogert & Durbin, New York	50	350
Arm. Dethier, Liège	50	350
A. Carpentier, Gand	50	406
Gelli & Tani, Bruxelles	2400	32400
Arm. Dethier, Liège	50	750
Schildnecht, Bruxelles	2400	36000
J. B. Moens, Bruxelles	2400	36001.15
Otto Steffens, Bruxelles	2400	40000

Strange as it may appear, the stamps were not sold to the highest bidder, as he did not attend with the money. Mr. Steffens wrote from Spa, that, in the event of his tender being accepted, he had given instructions to a bank to pay the money. The official decided that this was contrary to the conditions, and that the tender of Mr. J. B. Moens would be accepted. Upon this, Mlle. Moens, on behalf of her father, tendered a cheque for 36,001fr. 15c. Mr. Schildnecht objected, on the ground that a cheque was not a legal tender; and, notwithstanding the offer of a prominent banker to guarantee the cheque, it was decided that the cheque should not be accepted, and the thirty-six bank-notes, of 1000 francs each, were handed up by Mr. Schildnecht, who thus became the proud possessor of the stamps, at the rate of 15 francs each, or three times face value.

Gibbons, in his latest Catalogue, prices the 5fr. stamp in pale brown at 30/., and red-brown at 20/.

Advertisers are beginning to recognise this also.

Philately in India.

We are glad to learn from our excellent Indian contemporary, the *Philatelic World*, that Philately is making considerable headway in India. The Editor writes:—

Philately has its votaries all the world over, but it is hard to conceive of any country so eminently suited to the fascination of its pursuit as is India, and India seems to be rapidly finding this out. From the private household of Belvidere, through all races and ranks, our hobby is setting its grip upon this great country. It appeals alike to either sex, is the recreation of youth, and the solace of age. The high Anglo-Indian official goes home to enjoy his well-earned pension, and to devote his closing years to his stamps, the child struggling with its first attempts at spelling finds the task lighter when picking out the letters on the contents of its album. '*It is so humanising!*' was the recent remark of a well-known Calcutta clergyman to ourselves, made with a warm ring of genuine enthusiasm in his voice that did us good to hear. And even in India that which humanises cannot be unworth the having.

The Perforation of Dutch Indies.

Mr. Gilbert Lockyer contributes to the August number of Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal* some tables of the Perforations of Dutch Indies stamps, which he prefaces with the following interesting note:—

The variety of perforation, $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, which occurs with nearly all the values up to 1883, is brought about in rather a curious way. In every sheet perforated $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ (the common perforation), the first stamp in each horizontal row is perf. $11\frac{1}{2}$ horizontally; instead of $12\frac{1}{2}$, owing, I suppose, to the accidental omission of one needle. It is not accounted for in the same way as the early Saint Vincents, where the setting is irregular throughout the sheet. In this case, the remainder of each horizontal line of perforation is $12\frac{1}{2}$, clear and fairly regular, $11\frac{1}{2}$ appearing in this one place only, and for just over the space of two centimetres. To put it concisely, each horizontal line of perforation to the sheets perforated $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$ begins with $11\frac{1}{2}$ gauge for the length of two centimetres, making the first stamp in every row a variety perf. $11\frac{1}{2} \times 12$, the other nine stamps being $12\frac{1}{2} \times 12$.

I have not seen this fact noted before, and never, to my recollection, have met with a similar case of what may fairly be called an error of perforation. The same applies, no doubt, to the same variety of perforation of Curaçao, Surinam, and the mother country, it being reasonable to suppose that the same machine was in use for all. The Dutch Society's new book, which I have not read, (being unable), may mention it.

Varieties in De la Rue Designs.

Stanley Gibbons' *Journal* gives the following version of a letter contributed to *La Revue Philatelique* by Monsieur G. P. Grignard, who claims to have discovered a second type of Messrs. De la Rue's adaptable design for the British Colonies—the one with the profile in an octagon:—

The most striking points of difference are stated to be that the diadem, and the lined background of the octagon, are distinctly darker in Type I. than in Type II.; whilst, on the other hand, the lines of shading on the chin, and on the front point of the neck, extend further on Type II. than on Type I., so that the latter shows more white in those parts than the former. There are also slighter traces of re-touching about the ear, the eye, the hair, the diadem, &c., which are hardly visible to the naked eye. Mous. Grignard gathers from the examination of stamps of various issues, that Type I. was employed exclusively down to 1889, and perhaps later. He finds the following in both types:—Cyprus, 30 paras, $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, and 4 piastres, wmk. Crown & CA; Turks Islands, $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; and St. Lucia, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., green, 1d., lilac, and $\frac{1}{2}$ d., brown. While Cyprus, 9, 18, and 45 piastres; St. Lucia, 5 and 10 shillings; and Turks Islands, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., blue, he believes only exist in Type II.

The Rare Vancouver.

Mr. Donald King, who for some months has been contributing to Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal*, a series of able and exhaustive articles on the stamps of the British North American Colonies, gives the following history of the rare imperf. Vancouver:—

The first stamp issued was for the two Colonies, and has the names of both upon it. It was manufactured by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., of London, printed on a thin, smooth, unwatermarked paper, with white gum, and it exists imperforate, and perforated 14. The imperforate copies are of a rosy-brown shade, and the earlier printing of the perforated the same. What may be called later printings of

the latter are of a clear rose colour, and are much rarer than the earlier shade. The paper of this variety also differs slightly, being whiter and a trifle heavier. Why this stamp was issued imperforate, it is impossible to say; but it is possible, from their great rarity, that such specimens were from proof-sheets sent out for approval, and afterwards turned into stock by the Government. Used copies are particularly rare; within the last six years I have only seen two mentioned as for sale.

Find of St. Louis Stamps.

The American newspapers publish the following story of the recent find of St. Louis stamps:—

About two weeks ago the janitors were ordered to destroy a lot of old papers in the basement of the Court House, Louisville, Kentucky. The documents had been piled away in one of the rooms for nearly fifty years, and no one had thought they were of value. When the janitors discovered the stamps on the papers they took them to Turnkey John Brown of the jail, who realised that they were rare and valuable, and he told the janitors to say nothing but bring him the stamps and he would sell them for them. The men obeyed him. At first the stamps were sold for \$35 and \$40 each, but the rich find soon reached the ears of stamp collectors, and the price has been run up to \$500 each, and the owners are holding out for higher prices. A telegram from Louisville says: 'Jail Turnkey John Brown, who purchased those rare St. Louis stamps from the Court House janitors, realised most of the money. He has deposited with the Louisville Trust Company ten more of the same variety, for which he says he was offered \$500 each. He is now holding them for \$1000 each. A quantity of the trash, taken from the Court House had been sent to the city dumps before the stamps were discovered, and it is reported that a great many persons are there searching for the valuable bits of paper. It is reported that much of the waste paper was used to fill in under the newly laid granitoid pavement around the Court House, and there is some talk of tearing up the pavement.'

The Rise in Prices.

In an editorial *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News*, sets itself the task of defending the rise in prices, set forth in recently published Catalogues, and small comfort is there in what he says for the collector of average means. He says:—

With United States stamps, and in fact large numbers of old European and British Colonials, the climax, as far as price are concerned, is yet in the far distance, and the predicted "top notch" is yet beyond our view. Many are heard to say that the fact of the prices being increased at such a rapid rate on many stamps is going to have an unfavourable effect, and is sure to be detrimental to the popularity and in increased interest of collecting. This is a mistake. It is simply a matter of circumstance. When the demand for these desirable stamps shall cease, then is the time that prices will take a standstill; but where there are a dozen buyers for one stamp, and the seller has no immediate prospect of securing another, there is but one natural result, and as far as the effect of this condition of affairs on the general collector, it is simply a matter of where he shall draw the line. Every year there are certain stamps that are destined to go beyond his reach if he has established a fair price limit. The stamp that a year ago was considered within the reach of the comparatively advanced collector, in another twelve months may be regarded as a gem that can only be purchased by the philatelist who pays big prices.

There is no doubt a great deal of truth in all this, but there is also another view which may very well yield a text for yet another editorial. This rise of prices is going on all along the line, and barring out one country after another from the average collector, till some fear that stamp collecting may be carried beyond the reach of the ordinary pocket. In such a case, how will stamp dealing fare as a trade from which to get a living? If the rise in prices is entirely due to the law of supply and demand, then all may be well, but if, as many suspect, there is a great deal of cornering, and a great deal of artificiality in the business, especially in U.S. the rise will do real harm to the best interests of stamp collecting.

NOTICE.

EXCHANGE copies of *Philatelic Journals* for notice in OUR REVIEW OF REVIEWS pages should be forwarded direct to the Editor, Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, Carisbrook, Birdhurst Rise, Croydon; and two copies as usual to the Offices of the "S.C.F.", 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

Class a—Superb condition, if unused with gum, (mint state), if used, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked *

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co.'s Sale, August 28, 1895.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
b	Barbados, 5 - rose	£1	9s.	od. and
a	British Guiana (1862), 2c. yellow, pearls (No. 17)	6	0	0
a	British Honduras, 1/- grey	2	0	0
a	Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 4d. dark blue on piece of original	6	5	0
b	Great Britain, the V.R. *	11	10	0
a	4d. rose, large garter, block of 4 *	3	0	0
a	6d. lilac, emblems, plate 5, block of 4 *	2	14	0
a	2 pairs of same	£1	5s.	od. and
a	ditto, plate 6, a single *	3	5	0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green *	2	16	0
a	Jamaica, 2d. rose, CA *	1	0	0
a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. orange on bluish, early state, pair on piece of original	28	0	0
a	ditto, 2d., fairly early	6	10	0
b	Mexico, 3 centavos brown *	5	15	0
a	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA	5	12	6
a	2½d. brown, CC *	1	5	0
a	Naples, ½ tornese deep blue, arms	16	5	0
c	Natal, 1/- green, curved red surcharge, some perfs. clipped	19	10	0
a	Nevis, 2½d. red-brown, CC *	1	6	0
a	4d. orange, engraved *	3	3	0
b	6d. grey on greyish *	3	0	0
b	1/- green on greyish *	2	16	0
a	New Brunswick, 6d. and half 3d. on entire 1 - violet	4	15	0
a	1 - milky mauve	17	15	0
b	Newfoundland, 6d. vermilion	16	0	0
a	2 0 0	2	0	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d. light blue, plate 1 ditto, 3d. brown-green	2	4	0
a	2 10 0	2	10	0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. brown, pair	3	15	0
a	1/- dark plum	17	5	0
b	Oldenburg, second issue, ½gr. on green *	6	5	0
b	third issue, ½gr. green *	1	10	0
a	ditto, ½gr. brown *	1	7	0
b	Philippines, first issue, 10c. carmine	1	14	0
a	ditto, 1r. pale blue	1	14	0
b	ditto, 2r. green *	1	14	0
b	ditto, ditto, pair on original	2	0	0
b	5 cuartos, litho *	3	0	0
a	another, used	2	0	0
b	St. Lucia, 1 - orange *	4	10	0
a	1/- orange and black	4	4	0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. on 1 - vermilion	7	15	0
b	Saxony, 10gr. blue *	1	3	0
b	Spain (1850), 6r. blue	1	7	0
b	(1854), ditto *	1	14	0
a	Sweden, 24sk. 6c.	1	2	0
a	Tuscany, 1 soldi and two 2 soldi, on piece of original	24	0	0
a	United States (1851), 5c. imperf.	1	6	0
b	(1861), 5c. yellow	1	2	0
b	(1855), 90c. blue *	2	8	0
b	Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow	4	7	0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown	1	2	0
a	4d. on 1 -	2	10	0
a	another *	1	8	0
a	6d. rose, perf. 12 *	1	1	0
a	1/-, coloured border *	1	2	0
a	another, used	1	14	0
b	1/- rose, double lined *	5	5	0
a	1/- brown, pair *	1	6	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Western Australia, 6d. bronze, good lustre	5	5	0
b	1 - brown	1	1	0
a	Wurtemberg, 18kr. black on violet *	2	0	0

The London Philatelic Company's Sale, Sep. 9, 1895.

a	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf. *	1	1	0
a	Barbados, 3d. reddish purple *	1	0	0
a	British Columbia, 25c. yellow and violet, perf. 12½ pair *	4	4	0
b	British Guiana (1860), 1c. rose	1	6	0
a	British Honduras, 1/-, no wmk. *	0	17	0
a	Ceylon, ½d. deep violet, imperf. pair	3	10	0
b	5d., no wmk.	1	6	0
b	Dominica, 1/- lake, perf. 14	£1	0s.	od. and
b	Great Britain, 1d. red, plate 146, imperf. pair	2	10	0
b	10/-, Maltese cross	0	19	0
a	10 -, anchor	£1	4s.	od. and
b	£1, Maltese cross	1	8	0
b	£1, anchor, tel. used	1	4	0
a & b	£1, green, strip of 5	1	3	0
a	Hamburg, 7sch. orange, perf.	0	14	0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green	2	10	0
a	Heligoland, 1 mark, yellow-green	1	16	0
b	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown	1	1	0
b	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC. *	1	2	0
b	another, used	1	5	0
b	4d. blue, CA.	£4	0s.	od. and
b	Nevis, 4d. rose	2	4	0
b	4d. orange, engraved	£1	5s.	od. and
b	4d. yellow, litho	0	16	0
b	6d. grey, perf. 13	£2	0s.	od. and
b	6d. red on greyish *	2	6	0
a	6d. red-brown, CA. *	1	0	0
b	1/- green, perf. 13 *	4	0	0
b	another, used	2	0	0
a	1/- blue-green, perf. 15, engraved	£1	16s.	od. and
a	1/- yellow-green, ditto, ditto	4	10	0
b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	2	15	0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. lake	0	18	0
a	8d. carmine *	1	0	0
b	1 - lake	1	6	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 3d. on wove	1	6	0
a	New Zealand, 2d. orange, lozenges	3	0	0
a	6d. deep red-brown, imperf.	0	17	0
a	1 - blue-green, no wmk.	0	14	0
a	1/- pelure, imperf.	1	3	0
b	Nova Scotia, 6d. apple green *	2	12	6
b	Oldenburg, second issue, 2gr. on rose, on piece of original	1	12	0
b	Queensland, 6d. imperf.	1	0	0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. sepia, CA. *	2	10	0
a	6d. red - brown, surcharged "St. Kitts, Nevis Revenue," used postally	1	10	0
a	1 - lilac	1	10	0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. blue, no wmk., two copies each	0	15	0
b	ditto *	0	16	0
a	4d. orange, no wmk.	£2	4s.	od. and two each
b	4d. blue, star	£1	3s.	od. and
b	4d., the rare blue shade, CA., perf. 12	1	1	0
a	6d. green, CA., perf. 12	1	6	0
b	1/- grey	0	18	0
a	1 - deep indigo blue *	1	6	0
b	ditto, used	£1	1s.	od. and
a	1/- vermilion, CA., perf. 12, pair *	2	4	0
b	Switzerland, Vaud, 5c.	1	16	0
a	Trinidad, dark grey on white *	1	1	0
a	6d. green, imperf.	3	3	0
b	United States (1862), 5c. red-brown *	0	14	0
a	5c. mustard	0	18	0
b	(1869), 24c.	0	18	0
b	(1868), 90c. blue, grill	1	10	0
b	(1869), 90c.	2	8	0
b	Columbus, 1 dollar	0	14	0
a	Victoria, 8d. on 9d. brown-rose *	1	0	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.
		£ s. d.
a	Victoria, 10d. slate	0 14 0
b	another	0 12 0
a	Virgin Islands, 1d. green, CC. sideways *	0 10 0
a	4d. brown-rose *	0 11 0
a	6d. rose, perf. 12 *	£1 1s. od. and 1 3 0
a	another, used	1 12 0
a	1/- crimson, coloured border *	1 5 0
b	Wurtemberg, 18kr. pale lilac	1 1 0
<i>Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, September 18, 1895.</i>		
a	Barbados, 5/- lake	1 7 0
b	Canada, 6d. purple-black	0 15 0
b	7½d. green *	6 6 0
b	Dominica, 1/- perf. 12½ *	1 5 0
b	another, used	0 16 0
b	1/- perf. 14 *	1 0 0
b	Great Britain, 2/- blue *	0 16 0
b	New Brunswick, 1/- mauve, dotted postmark in places piercing the paper	17 0 0
b	Nova Scotia, 8½c. green *	1 4 0
a	Oldenburg, first issue, ½gr.	1 10 0
a	Portuguese Indies, first issue, 20r. red on entire	1 6 0
b	Queensland, ½d. on 1d., pair *	1 1 0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. orange, no wmk.	2 0 0
b	South Australia, 3d. red. on blue	1 0 0
b	Straits Settlements, first issue, 12c. red and green *	0 17 0
b	Tasmania, first issue, 4d.	1 10 0
b	Trinidad, neutral on blue, pair	1 2 0
a	brown-lilac, on entire	0 19 0
b	blue litho, medium state, on entire	1 18 0
b	ditto, late state, ditto	1 15 0
b	United States (1869), 24c.	0 15 0
b	Columbus, 1 dollar	0 15 0
a	ditto, 2 dollars, pair *	1 8 0
a	ditto, 3 dollars, ditto	1 8 0
a	ditto, 4 dollars, ditto	1 16 0
a	ditto, 5 dollars, single *	1 0 0
b	Post Obitem, sealed *	1 0 0
b	Victoria, 3d. lake, beaded oval	0 14 0
b	6d. orange, roulette, on piece of original	0 14 0
a	Virgin Islands, 4d. red-brown, CA. *	0 15 0
c	1/- crimson, perf. 15 *	2 10 0
b	Western Australia, 6d. violet-brown, swan *	0 16 0
b	Wurtemberg, 18kr. blue, perf. 13	0 16 0
<i>Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., Sept. 19 & 20, 1895.</i>		
b	Antigua, 2½d. red-brown, CC.	1 4 0
a	1/- mauve, block of four *	5 0 0
a	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf., pair *	2 8 0
a	Four Pence on 6d.	0 16 0
a	Barbados, 1d. blue on blue, pair *	0 17 0
a	British Guiana (1853), 1c. red	2 4 0
b	Canada, ½d. perf.	0 17 0
a	7½d. green	£2 8s. od. and 2 10 0
a	Ceylon, 4d. rose, star, perf.	0 18 0
a	8d. brown, ditto, ditto	4 10 0
b	9d. violet, ditto, ditto	0 15 0
a	Denmark, first issue, 2rbs. blue *	1 12 0
a	Dominica, 6d. orange, CA., pair *	0 19 0
a	1/- lake, CA. *	5 5 0
a	ditto, CC., perf. 14 *	0 19 0
b	another, used	0 17 0
a	Fiji, 2d. red on 6c. green, gothic surcharge	1 14 0
b	Gold Coast, ½d. bistre, CA. *	1 1 0
a	Great Britain, 1d. black, reprint, wmk. large crown inverted, pair	3 0 0
a	6d. lilac, emblems, plate 5, block of 4 *	3 15 0
b	9d. straw, emblems, plate 4 *	2 0 0
a	10/- grey, anchor, tel. used	2 0 0
a	£1 violet, Maltese cross, ditto, two	each 1 14 0
b	Hamburg, 9sch. yellow, imperf.	1 14 0
a	Hanover, 10gr. green	2 2 0
b	Japan, 4scn. rose, syllabic *	0 18 0
a	Levant, 6 kops large blue	4 15 0
a	Mauritius, small fillet, 2d. blue on entire	3 17 6
b	Naples, 50gr. lake	2 4 0
a	Natal, 3d. blue, Postage in tall, thin capitals	1 3 0
a	Nevis, 4d. rose on greyish	£2 12s. od. and 2 14 0
b	4d. rose on bluish	3 5 0
a	4d. yellow, litho *	8 10 0
a	4d. blue *	1 10 0
b	6d. grey on greyish	£1 9s. od., £1 10s. od. and 1 12 0
a	6d. olive, litho *	11 10 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.
		£ s. d.
a	Nevis, 1/- yellow-green, No. 9 on plate *	16 0 0
a	1/- green, perf. 15	1 8 0
a	1/- dark green, litho *	2 2 0
a	1/- violet *	2 6 0
b	New Brunswick, 6d yellow, penmark	2 6 0
a	1/- violet	17 5 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange *	1 6 0
a	6d. carmine	8 0 0
b	6d. orange	1 18 0
b	6½d. carmine, no margins	7 10 0
c	1/- orange, no margins	10 0 0
b	5c. brown, seal *	1 3 0
b	another, used	1 0 0
a	New Zealand, 4d. orange, no wmk., pair *	1 12 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. brown-red *	2 2 0
a	half of 6d., on entire	1 12 0
a	6d. dark green	2 0 0
a	1/- deep plum	22 0 0
b	Oldenburg, third issue, ½gr. green *	1 18 0
a	Peru, medio peso, yellow	2 0 0
b	Portugal, first issue, 100r. lilac	1 16 0
a	Russia, 7k. blue, inverted groundwork *	1 18 0
b	7 roubles, no thunderbolts *	1 6 0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. sepia, CA, pair, * with control number	5 0 0
a	1/- lilac, * with control number	1 16 0
a	ditto strip of 5, used	7 15 0
a	St. Lucia, first issue, the green (1885), 6d. mauve *	1 18 0
a	St. Vincent, 4d. yellow, no wmk., * two each	3 10 0
a	4d., dark blue, ster *	7 10 0
b	another, no gum	5 10 0
b	another, used	1 14 0
a	6d. pale green, star, perf. 14-15 *	2 2 0
a	6d. yellow-green, CA. perf. 12 *	2 5 0
a	another, used	3 12 6
a	1/- brown	£1 5s. od. and 1 7 0
b	1/- blue	1 5 0
b	1/- slate, comp. perfs. *	1 7 0
a	1/- violet-rose *	5 10 0
a	Schleswig-Holstein, first issue, 1sch. blue *	0 17 0
b	South Australia, 3d. red on blue	1 0 0
a	Spain (1868), 19ctos. brown *	1 16 0
b	Straits Settlements, first issue 12c. *	1 2 0
b	Switzerland, Zurich, 6r. horizontal, on piece of original	1 14 0
a	Trinidad, 1d. blue on blue *	0 17 0
a	4d. lilac, imperf. *	1 6 0
a	6d. green, imperf.	2 4 0
a	1/- blue-black, imperf.	1 12 0
a	Turks Islands (1893), ½d. on 4d. grey, pair *	3 10 0
a	United States, New York, 5c. black on entire	1 8 0
b	5c. mustard *	3 10 0
b	(1869), 9oc.	2 0 0
a	Columbus, 3 dollars, pair	1 12 0
b	Victoria, "Too Late"	1 0 0
a	"Registered"	0 15 0
a	Virgin Islands, 4d. brown-rose *	£0 11s. od. 0 12 0
b	6d. rose, perf. 15 *	6 0 0
a	1/- coloured border *	1 4 0
a	another, used	2 10 0
a	1/- thin border *	4 5 0
a	another, "stop after "Islands" "	4 10 0
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Postmarks and Obliterations of Great Britain, Maltese Cross, various types, 44, 45; England, 45 to 50; Scotland and Ireland, 51 to 55.

British Post Offices Abroad and in the Colonies.—List of 170 Offices and numbers, 56 to 59; Price List of British Stamps used Abroad, 60 to 88 Army Post Offices, 89; Ship Letters, 90 to 92; other Postmarks, 93, 94.

Advertisements.—Pages 95 to 108.

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1d. ,, pl. 17 to 225	67 0	19 0
2d. blue, set of 7	4 1	1 8
2 1/2d. lilac-rose, set of 18 ..	28 3	10 6
2 1/2d. blue, ,, 7	4 0	1 6
3d. rose, ,, 19	17 9	11 6
4d. orange, ,, 10	5 6	3 9
6d. lilac, ,, 8	9 4	5 3
6d. grey, ,, 8	8 11	5 9
1/- green, ,, 11	17 6	10 0

All used English 25 to 75% under Catalogue. Selections sent to responsible parties. 5% Discount to all Purchasers of £2 upwards.

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THE Advertiser, who is leaving for India, desires to make arrangements with two or three large Dealers to supply them with the above.

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WANTED TO BUY:—

Rarities of EUROPE & ENGLISH COLONIES

Also Whole Collections. Offers Solicited. [6]

THE SWAN FOUNTAIN PEN

Manufactured in three sizes at 10s. 6d., 16s. 6d. and 25s. each.

HOW

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"Yes, if the fact is of any consequence, you are very welcome to say that I wrote the 'MANX-MAN' with the Swan Fountain Pen. It has become quite indispensable to me. I can use it with ease and certainty anywhere and at any time, even in the dark, in bed, and on horseback."

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Callers at the offices of Messrs. Hildes & Co. of this paper, will find 93, Cheapside, nearly opposite [23]

Reduced Facsimile.



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DURING the past two or three months, my stock of English Stamps, comprising Postage and Post Office Telegraph Stamps, Unused, Surcharged, 'Specimen,' Used, and with Colonial and Foreign postmarks, has been increased by more than £3,000, and is now ready for inspection. I have a very fine series of over 200 Approval Books, which I shall be pleased to send on receipt of satisfactory references.

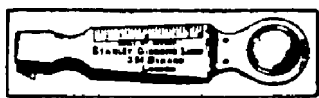
Lists of Wants solicited. All letters promptly answered. [12]

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REQUIRED for FOREIGN STAMP BUSINESS. Must have a good knowledge of same, quick and accurate.—Apply

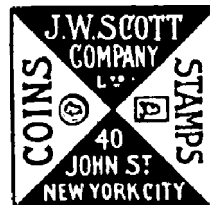
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THE ARCADE, BOURNEMOUTH.

Price, 2/6 in Case  POST FREE, 2/9.

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Price List on Receipt of P.C. [12]

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 28.—No. 2.—Vol. II. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :
 The Liverpool Philatello Society. The City of London Philatello Club. Rochdale Philatello Society.
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatello Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Sheffield Philatello Society.

HILCKES' AUCTION SUMMARY,

CEYLON. Imperforate.

Auctioneer and Date.	Class.	Description.	Price.
V 30 1 95	a	½d. lilac on white ..	0 14 0
H 17 5 95	c	ditto, lilac on bluish, cut close ..	0 14 0
C 10 12 94	b	4d. rose ..	18 10 0
V 30 1 95	a	ditto * fine margins, colour and gum ..	130 0 0
C 11 3 94	c	ditto * small margins, no gum, slight discolouration ..	13 10 0
V 8 11 94	a	ditto, light postmark ..	16 0 0
ditto	c	ditto, corner clipped ..	5 15 0
L 28 11 94	c	ditto, margin cut one side ..	6 10 0
V 26 11 11	b	ditto ..	6 6 0
ditto	b	ditto ..	6 15 0
L 14 2 95	c	ditto, mend at top ..	3 15 0
V 28 3 95	a	ditto ..	20 0 0
V 7 5 95	a	ditto ..	16 0 0
H 17 5 95	b	ditto ..	7 12 6
L 28 11 94	a	6d. light brown ..	0 14 0
P 29 5 95	a	6d. brown on blue, pair *	5 5 0
V 23 5 95	b	6d. violet-brown on blue ..	5 10 0
L 22 11 95	a	8d. yellow-brown ..	22 0 0
V 10 1 95	c	8d. brown ..	9 0 0
ditto	c	ditto, nicked ..	4 4 0
L 16 1 95	a	ditto ..	23 0 0
V 20 2 95	c	ditto, slight tear ..	6 15 0
V 13 3 95	c	ditto, margins, but corners clipped ..	2 12 6
V 28 3 95	c	ditto, torn through ..	3 3 0
V 18 4 95	a	ditto ..	10 0 0
ditto	c	ditto, cut close ..	4 0 0
L 1 2 95	b	8d. deep brown, large margins ..	18 0 0
V 7 5 95	b	8d. brown, fine, but no margins ..	13 0 0
H 17 5 95	a	8d. deep brown ..	21 0 0
V 8 11 95	b	9d. violet-brown * ..	10 0 0
H 17 12 94	b	9d. brown * ..	1 16 0
V 24 10 94	c	9d. violet-brown, slight tear ..	2 4 0
H 7 11 94	b	ditto, on piece of original ..	2 6 0
L 28 11 94	a	ditto, on entire ..	3 5 0
V 26 11 94	b	ditto ..	3 3 0
ditto	b	ditto, slight margins ..	3 0 0

SPECIMEN PAGE.

SEASON, 1894-5.

Compiled by HARRY HILCKES.

AS Priced Catalogues seem to be of such very imaginary value just now, the publication of the above little work will no doubt fill "a long-felt want." The Specimen Page will explain the arrangement, and will show in a lucid manner the precise position of the Market during the last Season, thus forming an invaluable guide to Investors for the ensuing Season.

Orders can now be booked at

Post Free 2/6

Ready about November 5th.

Orders are now Booked.

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(Late of BISHOP AUCKLAND),

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Selections of Rare Stamps Sent on Approval on receipt of satisfactory references or deposit.

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—OF—
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

At the ST. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, CHARING CROSS, E.C.

DATES OF SALE.

October 24th and 25th. Nov. 12th, 13th, 28th and 29th.
December 12th, 13th and 31st.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, in announcing the Dates, which have already been fixed to the end of the year, beg to draw attention to the following important Sales:—

October 24th & 25th.—By instructions of H. CHAMPION, Esq. M.L.P.S., a magnificent Collection including the following rarities: Canada, 6d. purple, perf.; New Brunswick, 6d. yellow and 1s. mauve, superb; Newfoundland, 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1s. orange vermilion; Nova Scotia, 1s., superb; St. Lucia, 1st issues, fine, and 1s. orange; St. Vincent, 5s., star wmk. 4d. on 1s., and 1d. on half 6d.; Tobago, C. and C.A., 6d. ochre; Trinidad, blue, lithographed; Ceylon, 4d., 8d., 9d., 1s. 9d. and 2s., imperf.; India, 4 annas, with dividing line; Cape, fine woodblocks; Mauritius, very fine 1s., and a superb unused, 2d., very early state, pair of large fillets, the error Penoe, &c., and Greek border, 1d. red; New South Wales, a very fine lot of Sydney views, all picked specimens, including error Crevit omitted, and other varieties, laureated 1d. on blue, unused, no leaves, 6d. brown, error "walls," 5d. green, imperf., unused, and 8d., imperf.; New Zealand, 1d. and 1s. on blue, and fine pelures; a superb Collection (in lots) of Queensland, including a strip of three, 2d. blue, imperf., pairs of the 1d., 2d., and 6d., and single specimens of each on entires, imperforated, a fine lot of the later issues, unused, &c.; South Australians, fine pairs of the 1d. imperf.; Victoria, 5s. blue on yellow, and 2d., fine background, on original; Western Australia, 2d. brown on red, 6d. bronze and 1d., 2d., and 4d., rouletted, fine; Fiji, a rare lot; and others too numerous to mention.

November 12th & 13th.—By instructions of F. WEST, Esq., the duplicate portion of his fine Collection of Great Britain, also a fine general Collection in lots, including the following rarities: Ceylon, 9d. and 1s. 9d., imperf.; Philippines, 1st issue, complete; Cape woodblocks; fine Mauritius, early state, 1d., very fine, 2d., fine, and provisional 4d. green, &c.; New Brunswick, 6d. and 1s.; fine U.S., including Departmentals, complete; Mexico, 3c. brown, eagle; Virgin Islands, 1s., single line border; rare Nevis; Brazil, slanting figures, 180, 300, and 600 reis; Buenos Ayres, 3 and 4 pesos; Victoria, 6d. orange, beaded oval; Tasmania, 1d. blue, and others.

Owing to the large number of applications the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, one month before the date of Sale. In order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. If special days of Sale are required, early notice should be given.

Valuations made if required.

Catalogues of all Sales and Terms can be had on application to

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper,

35, OLD JEWRY, LONDON, E.C.

(PHILATELIC DEPARTMENT).

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WILL BE IN THE
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Will be **READY** in December.

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CATALOGUE Ever Issued.
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BRIGHT & SON

Have pleasure in announcing the coming Production of their

"A.B.C." Descriptive Priced Catalogue

Of the World's Postage Stamps.

MESSRS. BRIGHT & SON'S CATALOGUE will be Issued in a convenient size, viz.: 6½ by 4½ inches, and will consist of over 600 pages, fully illustrated. The Catalogue will be printed from entirely new type, specially bought for the purpose, and in point of clearness will be superior to any Catalogue ever published. The Illustrations will be in the very best style, and will, with few exceptions, be PHOTOGRAPHIC REPRODUCTIONS OF THE ORIGINAL STAMPS.

Prepaid Orders now booked.

Copies will be delivered in same order as Remittances are received. . . .

1/9 POST FREE EVERYWHERE.

MESSRS. BRIGHT & SON have had the advantage of **ADVICE** and **ASSISTANCE** from a **LARGE NUMBER** of the **PROMINENT COLLECTORS OF THE DAY**. The whole of the Catalogue has been **CAREFULLY WRITTEN**, and very **SPECIAL ATTENTION** has been given to **THE PRICING**. Many Stamps long over-priced will be given their correct valuation, and others that have been **PURPOSELY CATALOGUED LOW**, will at last be given their proper value.

SPECIAL ATTENTION has been paid to the Stamps of the **WEST INDIES, GERMAN STATES, the AUSTRALIAN COLONIES, MEXICO, PERU, SHANGHAI, GREECE**, and many other Countries.

GREAT BRITAIN PLATE NUMBERS fully priced in convenient order, also Plate Numbers in Stamps of Japan and Cyprus. Detailed Priced List given of South Australia Departmental Surcharges

BRIGHT & SON,

THE ARCADE,
BOURNEMOUTH.

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CLEAR. ALL WILL BE
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THE STAMP COLLECTORS'

PORTNIGHTLY.

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."
CONDUCTED BY
HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.
Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

No. 28.—No. 2.—Vol. II.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	15
Open Letters, by Junius	16
Philately at Home	16-17
Forgers and their Work	17
S.S.S.S.	18
Under Bennett's Clock	19
Answers to Correspondents	19
Between Ourselves	20
The Truth About Senf's Catalogue	21
Our Forum	22
Our Review of Reviews	23-24
Auction Supplement	25-26

PHILATELIC PERSONALITIES

WONDERFUL, indeed, is the imaginative ability of some of the writers of personal paragraphs in the daily and weekly press. Some genius, who has been at great pains to prepare an article on the recreations of royalty for the Manchester Umpire, includes therein some gossip about eminent stamp collectors. The Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, he correctly points out, is a philatelist. But then he goes on to say: "The present Czar of Russia and the Duke of York both enjoy the same taste, and it is no uncommon thing for the monarch that is and the monarch that may be to exchange stamps with unknown enthusiasts who may write them." It would be wasting time to contradict this bladerdash categorically. We only draw attention to it as a sample of what a man can do when he has in front of him a sheet of blank paper that has got to be filled somehow.

* * *

It is about high time that the Brattleboro' stamp fiction was scotched. A Mr. Palmer, who deals in stamps, claims to have sold a specimen of the Brattleboro' for no less a

sum than £250. Either this is a deliberate trade lie, or Mr Palmer charged his customer about £150 more than he should have done. The stamp, so far as we are aware, has never fetched more than £90, and certainly is not worth more than that on the usual grounds of stamp valuations.

* * *

AND it makes us tired to read so repeatedly in daily and weekly papers that a £50 stamp has been sold for £250 by the celebrated Mr. So-and-so. We challenge the dealer in question to produce some proof more tangible than his own unsupported statement of the truth of what he says.

* * *

LORD ROSEBERY was once an ardent philatelist.

* * *

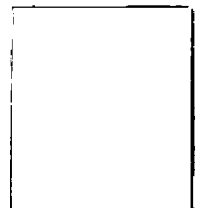
WE have received the following from Messrs. Taylor Brothers:—"Notice is hereby given that the partnership hitherto existing between us, the undersigned, Jesse Jaggard, George Hubert Taylor, and Wilfred Clement Taylor, carrying on business as Booksellers and Stamp Importers, at 81, Lord-street, Liverpool, in the county of Lancaster, was dissolved by mutual consent on the 31st day of August, 1895. All debts due to or owing by the late firm in the Stamp Department, will be received or paid by the undersigned, George Hubert Taylor and Wilfred Clement Taylor. All other debts, due to or owing by the late firm, will be received or paid by the undersigned, Jesse Jaggard, who will continue the book and stamp business at the same address."

* * *

MESSRS. Taylor Bros. have taken over all the stamp stock on hand, and have removed to 87, Lord Street. Mr. Jaggard, however, is still in the stamp trade, as may be seen above.

To Postal Subscribers.

PLEASE find on this space a One Penny Stamp of Jamaica, presented gratis to postal subscribers only.



If you desire honesty in the Stamps

Open Letters

TO EMINENT LEADING PHILATELISTS.

By JUNIUS.

No. I. To MR. M. P. CASTLE, J.P.

YOUR WORSHIP will no doubt excuse me for making you the subject of this the first of a series of letters intended to be addressed, individually, to our leading philatelists. And I may, perhaps, relieve your anxieties, if I add that I shall endeavour to steer clear of anything, and everything, that could possibly cause pain to the parties with whom I propose to take this journalistic liberty.

No one will dare to question your right to a very prominent place in the ranks of Philately. There may be those who can deal more mercifully with our English language than you, but there are few, if any, who possess a more profound knowledge of postage stamps and their market values. You are *facile princeps* in that shrewdness which rarely, if ever, errs in recognising the genuine article; and, so far as I am able to glean, the most expert forger has distinctly failed to impose his wares upon you.

These are great qualifications in a philatelist. They are possessed by few, and it is no wonder that by their aid you are able to boast that in a strictly kept Dr. and Cr. account, the vast philatelic treasures that you have garnered into your albums represent a ridiculously small out of pocket balance on the wrong side. Indeed, after the sale of your splendid collection of Australians for the sum of £10,000, the balance must be very largely on the other side.

No one will grudge you the success which all this represents. You have earned it, as profound philatelic knowledge must be earned, by years of patient and industrious study; and by a liberal and judicious expenditure. And if you have kept a few wrinkles to yourself, you have, nevertheless, been a generous contributor of much valuable information, from which we have all profited, according to our lights.

Some good souls who keep themselves better posted in matters affecting the business of others than in that which appertains to their own concerns, now and then, with a wink of the other eye, have ventured to suggest that you have been seen casting sly glances over that border line that so sharply divides collector and dealer. Alas, the envious are never tired of playing with edged tools.

Your worship is an enthusiast of the best type; of the type whose fervour and devotion outlive the passing fancies of the great majority who are here to-day and gone to-morrow. Your enthusiasm is never damped by "approaching completeness," never affected by Time's changes, nor by the rise or fall of prices; it is never even warped by fear of the possible evanescence of the hobby to which you have devoted your days and nights for so many years.

You are a veteran—a veritable patriarch in the philatelic ranks. And yet in years, in your own favourite phraseology, you are *in statu pupulari*. On the shady side of forty, but the right side of fifty, you have but recently entered upon a more active philatelic career as a philatelic editor. It is a difficult part to play, but in the playing of it you can count much to your own good credit. You can point to the fact that you have done your level best to maintain a high standard of philatelic journalism. Now and then you have been misunderstood, or misread, but in the long run, even those who love you least, will have to admit that you have done much to protect the hobby we all love so well from not a few of its most insidious foes.

You do not believe in the new journalism, with its proneness to unwarrantable personalities, and for that reason you have more than once poured oil on the troubled waters with a sensitiveness that has savoured of personal fear. When you have wielded the editorial pen for as many years as you have studied watermarks, perforations, and plate numbers, personalities will pass over you as lightly as water is said to pass over a duck's back. Meanwhile, there is no escape from the inevitable. If you will stand so prominently in the

gateway to philatelic fame, you must be content to pay the penalty of many a personal paragraph; some, perhaps, not too kindly intended by their envious writers.

As one of the keenest of bargain hunters, you have frequently scoured the continent of Europe, from Paris to the Danube, you have even circled the globe, on the same errand bent; and the only person who has ever been credited with having found anything worth finding on your trail is dear old Gibbons; not that he knows the pullets any better than you, but he is said to have a somewhat keener scent for their secret roosting places.

And now, *au revoir*. We shall meet again. Meanwhile, I must consider what I have to say in my next letter, which is to be addressed to that admirable philatelic Crichton—Mr. E. D. Bacon.



A RIDICULOUS SUGGESTION.

"Why should postage stamps not be numbered?" asks *The Mascot*. Echo might well answer "Rats!" Perhaps the editor of *The Mascot* is not aware that the annual sale of postage stamps run into many hundreds of millions. How would he number all these, pray? And who would he expect to pay for the work—the public, who pay too much for their postal service already, or the Government, which only makes a paltry three millions a year by carrying our letters? "Thieves," writes the editor of *The Mascot*, "can dispose of stamps with little danger." Dear! dear! How very dreadful! The public also can circumvent them by the purchase of a sixpenny cash-box. What a lot of nonsense is written in our weekly papers.

THE "RECORD" ON MR. HENNIKER HEATON.

It is somewhat unfortunate that the editor of *The Philatelic Record* cannot confine himself to philately and leave postal reform alone. To correct Mr. Heniker Heaton, M.P., on his own particular subject is simply a shipping order. Yet the editor of *The Record* cheerfully undertakes the job. He disputes Mr. Heniker Heaton's statement that a letter weighing one ounce is sometimes conveyed eleven hundred miles for one penny. He also wishes to be informed in what part of the globe a pound-and-a-half of newspaper is carried for one half-penny.

As to our contemporary's first contention, the smallest schoolboy among our readers will be able to furnish instances. As to the carriage of a pound-and-a-half of newspaper for one half-penny, we will simply draw our worthy confreres' attention to the existence of such papers as *The Queen*, *The Lady's Pictorial* and *The Gentlewoman*. If these papers do not always weigh a pound-and-a-half they are as a rule, perilously near it.

But there is another and more important phase of this question of newspaper postage. In America, newspaper matter is mailed at what are known as second-class rates—that is to say, at the uniform rate of one half-penny per lb. avoirdupois. The separate papers, all wrapped and addressed, are delivered to the Post Office *en bloc*, and the postage is then paid at the rate mentioned. To make the thing still clearer, we may say that about ten or twelve copies of the FORTNIGHTLY could be mailed for one half-penny. If this system obtained in England what a paper we could give our subscribers!

WHY NOT A POSTAL CLEARING HOUSE?

The Success wonders why there is no Clearing House for the apportioning of the money paid for the conveyance of letters by post from one country to another. Instead of this the countries in the Postal Union have adopted the easy plan of letting each country retain the money paid for its postage stamps. Thus if you post a letter in Paris for London, all that you

pay for your stamp at the Paris Post Office goes into the Paris Postal Treasury, although the English Post Office has to pay for the carriage of it on part of the journey; and in like manner our Department gets the full benefit of stamps bought for the conveyance of letters from London to Paris.

WE AGREE WITH SALISBURY!

It is not often that the "S.C.F." finds itself in perfect accord with the *P.J.G.B.* It is, therefore, all the more pleasing to find the Salisbury paper echoing our sentiments as regards the mutual admiration tactics of the Kissingers and Beardsleys of America. When will the matter receive attention in America itself?

THE DUKE OF YORK'S COLLECTION.

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING & Co., who keep ever an eagle eye on the philatelic sayings (or bravings) of the daily press, have taken it upon themselves to formally contradict the statement that the Duke of York has sold his collection. As royal Dukes do not condescend to put the public right in such things, it is quite as well that the Ipswich firm have done so. It is also quite as well that Messrs. King have pointed out that, although his royal highness's collection is a pretty good one, it is not worth anything like the fabulous sums gussed at by the writers of the gushy twaddle that one reads in the society papers.

THE PHILATELIST'S CAPACIOUS MAW.

Who is it, we wonder, who writes the philatelic leading articles that appear in the great daily papers. *The Morning Advertiser* has managed to get more blunders into a column of type than one would have thought the space permitted. The writer of this wonderful article concludes in this way; "In fact," he says, "your enthusiastic stamp collector becomes quite revolutionary. He loves states which are perpetually changing their form of government, because each change means a new set of stamps for his album." Does he? Ha! Ha!

A CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY'S STAMPS.

JOHN HEPTENSTALL who is, or was, a vice-president of the Crew Co-operative Society has been fined £5 with the unpleasant option of one month for stealing postage-stamps belonging to this Society. Mr. Heptenstall, by virtue of his exalted position, had the right of entry to all the departments, and he seems to have taken complete advantage of the privilege in the philatelic section.

SCRAP BOOK PHILATELY.

AMONGST the exhibits in the Ladies' Section of a recent exhibition at Brighton, was a screen, designed by Miss Clara Cooke, St. George's Terrace, Kemp Town, which was ingeniously arranged in a novel manner, the panels being entirely covered with portions of postage stamps. On one panel was represented a shaded portico in Old English red, hexagons, stars, &c.; in the second, Swiss chalet and English farmhouse scenes; and in the third, two fans, with flags and a number of other ornaments, all worked out in the same curious way with pieces of English or foreign postage stamps.

CAUSE AND EFFECT! AN INSTRUCTIVE LETTER.

GENTLEMEN, I notice you are on the committee for the suppression of *Local Postage Stamps*. Please do not send me your STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY any more. Yours faithfully, John Phillips, local postmaster, Amoy, China, 15th August, 1895.

FOR OUR CONTINENTAL FRIENDS.

OUR esteemed contemporary the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, in their number for July, ridiculed certain remarks made by Mr. T. A. Verkrüzen of Hamburg, who among others mentioned the word "Strassenpfeiler" or street-pillar, as a means where the English have to drop their letters for postage. Evidently the writer has never been in this country, or else he would have had ample opportunities to have seen little pillar-boxes similar to the annexed illustration, which are used over



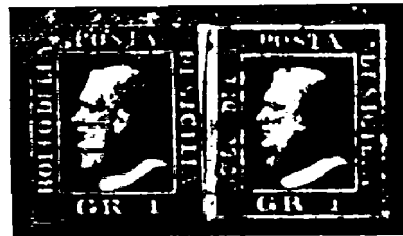
England in lieu of the conventional box arrangement which is so frequently met with on the Continent. It is very easy to ridicule a term one does not understand, but as we know Mr. Verkrüzen, who by the way is 87 years of age, has been intimately acquainted with English life, we could not but rectify the above error.



BY HARRY HILCKES.

IN consequence of an advertisement which appeared in the April issue of Mr. William Brown's paper, the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, a large number of forged Sicilian stamps have been circulated in this country. They are very well engraved, but on closer inspection they have a somewhat scratchy appearance. The colours also are faulty.

1 grano, olive. The word "posta" is much thinner in the forgery.



Genuine. Forgery.

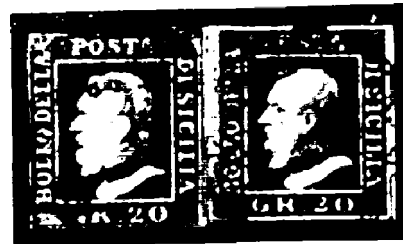
A very good test is the mouth, which has a somewhat contented expression in the forgery, whereas in the genuine stamp the face is decidedly sulky. A fairly sure test of all these stamps is the thin outer line which is very deliberately drawn in the forgery but comes out much heavier in the genuine stamps. This applies to the whole set. The forgery is much yellower in shade than the genuine which is true olive.

1 grana, blue. The difference in the mouth in this value is even more noticeable; the word "posta" has the same appearance as in the former value, and it seems to me that the same plates have been used for all the values, the figures in the bottom label being altered and, of course, the plate re-touched here and there.



Genuine. Forgery.

The forgery here is printed in a blackish blue—almost a neutral tint—whereas the genuine stamp is printed in a rich dark blue shade.

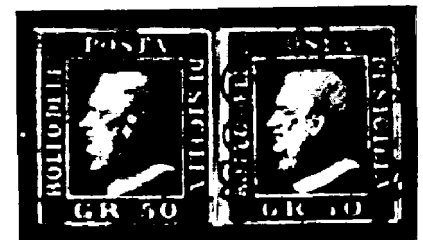


Genuine. Forgery.

10 grana, grey-black. As regards difference in type, the above remarks equally apply to this value; the shade is almost the same as in the genuine stamp, but slightly greyer.

50 grana, red-brown.

In this case the scratchy appearance is more pronounced than in any other type. The beard is badly drawn, and the colour is too red in shade.



Genuine. Forgery.

Some time ago we drew Mr. William Brown's attention to this swindling advertisement in the *P.J.G.B.*, and quite expected, as his journal proved the medium for the disposal of this rubbish, that he would be one of the first to denounce it. But not a word has appeared in the *P.J.G.B.* Evidently Mr. Brown is not exactly in a fever of eagerness to protect his readers against fraud.

The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps.

(CIRCULAR No. 3).

391, Strand, London, W.C.

THE Society, in conjunction with the Special Committee appointed by the London Philatelic Society, having taken into consideration the Stamps and other Postal matter mentioned below, are of opinion that they are not worth the attention of Philatelists, and appeal to all Collectors and Dealers to discountenance collecting or dealing in the same.

9.—New South Wales. The Post Office Department of New South Wales is now offering for sale Adhesive Stamps, Post Cards, and Stamped Envelopes bearing the letters O.S. This is the worst case we have yet had to consider.

The following are the official notices: (a) New South Wales. List of O.S. Postage Stamps, Post Cards, and Stamped Envelopes, showing date of issue of each variety.

ADHESIVE STAMPS.

No.	Value.	Colour.	Watermark.	O.S. in	Date of Issue.
1	1d.	Red	Crown, N.S.W.	Black	1 Jan., 1880
2	2d.	Blue	do.	do.	do.
3	3d.	Green	do.	Red	do.
4	4d.	Brown	do.	Black	do.
5	6d.	Lilac	do.	do.	do.
6	8d.	Orange	do.	Red	do.
7	1/0	Black	do.	do.	do.
8	5/0	Violet	5/0	Black	15 Febru., 1880
9	8d.	Orange	Crown, N.S.W.	do.	22 Febru., 1880
10	3d.	Green	do.	do.	22 March, 1880
11	5d.	Dark Green ..	do.	Red	7 May, 1880
12	9d.	Brown	do.	Black	31 May, 1880
13	10d.	Lilac	10	do.	do.
14	5d.	Dark Green ..	Crown, N.S.W.	do.	31 March, 1885
15	5/0	Lilac & Green	N.S.W.	do.	26 May, 1886
16	20/0	Lilac & Red ..	do.	do.	7 Jan., 1887
17	1d.	Purple	Crown, N.S.W.	do.	7 May, 1888
18	2d.	Blue	do.	do.	7 Sept., 1888
19	4d.	Brown	do.	do.	15 Oct., 1888
20	6d.	Rosine	do.	do.	21 Dec., 1888
21	8d.	Plum	do.	do.	15 March, 1889
22	1/0	Purple-Brown	do.	do.	do.
23	20/0	Blue	5/0	do.	22 Nov., 1889
24	10/0	Lilac and Carmine ..	N.S.W.	do.	30 April, 1889
25	5/0	Lilac	5/0	Red	do.
26	5/0	Lilac	5/0 N.S.W.	Black	15 Febru., 1890
27	20/0	Blue	20/0 N.S.W.	do.	15 March, 1890
28	2½d.	Blue	Crown, N.S.W.	do.	10 Jan., 1891
29	½d.	Black on Grey	do.	do.	21 Jan., 1891
30	7½d.	do. Brown ..	do.	do.	do.
31	1/0½	do. Red	do.	do.	do.
32	¾d.	Grey	do.	do.	9 May, 1892

The issue of O.S. Stamps ceased from 1st January, 1895.

POST CARDS.

No.	Value.	Colour.	Description.	Date of Issue.
33	1d.	Pink	Small size, without waratah	1 January, 1880
34	1d.	do.	Large size, with waratah ..	31 March, 1887
35	1d.	Purple	With arched inscription ..	31 January, 1889
36	1d.	do.	With straight inscription ..	31 January, 1890

STAMPED ENVELOPES.

No.	Value.	Colour.	Description.	Date of Issue.
37	1d.	Red	O.S. overprinted in black	31 August, 1880
38	2d.	Blue	do. do.	7 May, 1882
39	1d.	Red	O.S. inserted in four angles	7 May, 1885
40	1d.	Purple	O.S. overprinted in black	30 Sept., 1888
41	2d.	Blue	do. do.	do.
42	1d.	Purple	O.S. inserted in upper angles	28 Sept., 1888
43	6d.	Lilac	do. do.	21 October, 1888
44	6d.	Rosine	do. do.	23 May, 1889
45	2d.	Blue	do. do.	31 May, 1889
46	4d.	Brown	do. do.	8 August, 1892
47	5d.	Green	do. do.	26 Sept., 1892

(b) COPY.

POSTAL AND ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,
(1182) GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,

15th August, 1895.

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has approved of the sale to Stamp Collectors and others of complete sets of obliterated O.S. Stamps, at the price of £2 per set

(Signed) JOSEPH COOK.

Such Stamps, &c., are no longer available for postage; but these impressions, or some portion of them (either the Stamps, or the overprints, or both) have been made since the Stamps they represent became obsolete, and not only do they not bear any indication of their real nature, but they are being offered for sale obliterated with a hand stamp consisting of the letters N.S.W. in three concentric ellipses—thereby inducing Collectors to suppose that they have actually been employed for postage.

10.—Transvaal. A Commemorative Stamp of the value of 1d., rose (oblong), has recently been issued, which appears to be quite unnecessary for legitimate postal requirements.

11.—Peru. A set of Commemorative Stamps, consisting of 1c., 2c., 5c., 10c., 20c., and 50c., issued on the 10th of September last, to celebrate the election of a new President.

12.—Amoy. More Chinese Locals.

Commemorative Stamps have also been announced to be about to appear for the following places, and Collectors and Dealers are therefore warned beforehand concerning them:

13.—Greece (Olympian Games).

14.—Hungary (Millennium Stamps).

15.—Liege.

16.—Sweden.

GORDON SMITH, Secretary, S.S.S.S.

HERBERT R. OLDFIELD,

Secretary to the Special Commission,

10th October, 1895.

London Philatelic Society.

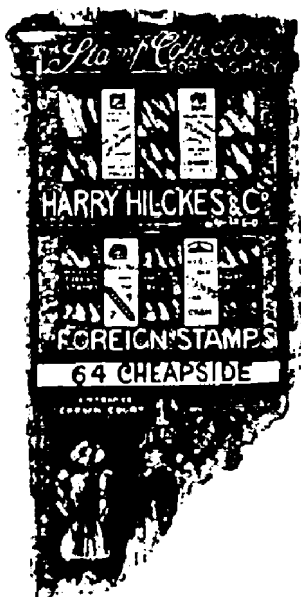
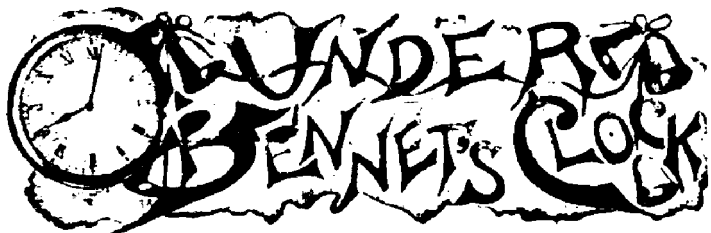
Our Enquiry Bureau.

ALTHOUGH our Bureau has only been in existence for a few weeks, we have already a success of a somewhat remarkable character to announce. Some weeks ago we received an enquiry about a Mr. R., in Rusholme, Manchester. We gave the following report:—

"He is a young man of about 25 years of age, unmarried and lived in apartments at—until 15 months ago, when he left. He has had since 2 or 3 addresses. He is said to be a dealer in foreign stamps, coins, etc., but has no recognized place of business, nor does he carry any stock. He is practically without means, and for the transaction in question a substantial guarantee is recommended."

We have since heard that a good many London dealers have sent this party stamps which they cannot get back. Had these dealers availed themselves of our enquiry system, they would probably now not be lamenting their lost property. We believe that nearly every one of our readers at one time or another have been the victims of similar frauds. To prevent a recurrence of such losses our readers should avail themselves of the advantages of our Bureau.

If you wish to receive the "S.C.F." regularly



OUR Big Number.—I was very sorry to see that the last number weighed over the conventional two ounces. It was overlooked to stamp the wrappers with the extra postage, but from the fact that only one copy has come back so far, either the Post Office must have been generous and let the paper go through, or our subscribers must have been sufficiently willing to pay the fine in order to get their FORTNIGHTLY.

Our Index.—A copy of this will be given free with every cover (post free, 1/3); single copies can be supplied at 2d. post free. If any of our subscribers wish us to bind their copies, we will do so, supplying cover and index, and return the bound volume on receipt of P.O. for 2/6.

Bound Volumes, No. I., of the "S.C.F." are now ready, and

can be supplied at 5/6 post free. We have, however, only a limited number of copies to spare at this price, and when these are exhausted, we must raise the price to 7/6 per Vol. Back numbers, Nos. 5, 10, 11 and 17, are out of print altogether, and no single copies can be supplied. We are willing to buy any of these numbers at 3d. per copy to complete our files. All other numbers can still be obtained at 1/6d. per copy post free.

Auction Summary.—I have already received a good many orders for this book, which is in active preparation; it will be ready at an early date, most likely before our next number comes out. The price is 2/6 post free, and the style of book can be seen from advertisement on front page.

I HAVE been repeatedly asked why I do not include in the Auction Supplement, the Sales of Mr. William Ridout. My readers will remember that during the last auction season, I addressed a letter to every London Auctioneer, requesting them to furnish my auction reporter with a priced catalogue showing distinctly what lots are actually sold, and what lots are "bought in," only. Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, Puttick, Cheveley, Hadlow, and Rockliffe, agreed at once to supply us with these necessary details, whilst Mr. Ridout, did not even have the courtesy to reply to our communication. As Mr. Ridout refused to give us the particulars required, I was unable to include his sales last season. This year I again sent him a formal request as above, but still no reply has come to hand. From personal experience at his sales of last season, I am convinced that unless I have these details, I am not able to supply my readers with the true values of stamps sold, and as the object of the Supplement is *not* to assist in rigging the market but to help our readers to ascertain to-day's value of stamps, Mr. Wm. Ridout's sales will again be passed over. The loss is not ours and I do not think our readers lose much either. Auctions are the most dangerous things if they are not reliable.

OUR ENQUIRY BUREAU is in full swing now. The subscription as stated before is 12/6 per annum which includes a book of five enquiry forms. They are especially valuable for the reason that they cover the Continent as well, and no collector who enters into exchange relations with others can really afford to do without it. If he thinks he can, I am afraid he will one morning wake up to find another "Mr. Coelho"—gone—leaving no address. HARRY HILCKES.

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING NOV. 2ND.

All News for this column must reach the office first post on Wednesday previous to date of publication.

Auction Sales.

- Oct. 21st.—The London Philatelic Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63-4, Chancery Lane, at 6 p.m. precisely.
 Oct. 23rd.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63-4, Chancery Lane, at 6 p.m. precisely.
 Oct. 24th & 25th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Hall, Charing Cross, at 5 p.m. each day.
 Oct. 24th.—Mr. Wm. Hadlow, at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, at 6 p.m. precisely.
 Nov. 4th & 5th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, at 6 p.m. each day.

Tapling Collection.

The following countries are now on view in the King's Library, British Museum: St. Vincent, Tobago, Trinidad, Turks Islands, Virgin Islands, Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone.

City of London Club.

Fortnightly Meetings at 121, Cheapside, Cossavella's Restaurant, every other Thursday, at 7.30 p.m.

The Annual Meeting will take place on October 31st.

London Philatelic Exchange.

Oct. 22nd.—121, Cheapside, E.C., Cossavella's Restaurant.



**** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.**

W. H. E. (Newcastle, Staffs).—Many thanks for your kindness in sending the news cutting. They are always most acceptable.

Miss G. (Jersey).—We shall certainly go on publishing other volumes of the "Universal" series of postage stamp albums, of which our English Album forms the first volume. Vol. II. will be the British Colonies in the West Indies, and Vol. III. will be the stamps of United States.

L.S. (London, E.C.).—You are perfectly right. In our last answer to G.N., we were in error in saying that only the 3d. and 1d. values of Transvaal were issued with two shafts to the waggon. The 2d., 6d. and 1/- ought to have been included.

M.T.B. (Nuneaton).—Many thanks for your kind wishes for the future of the "S.C.F." We do not think it would be advisable to give a list of all the Seebecks, they are so well known that another list would needlessly advertise them. Thanks for cutting about Dutch stamps; you saw we just managed to find room for it in last number.

R.P.J. (Hereford).—Yes, most decidedly, the current French Colonials are absolutely unnecessary, although our French neighbours may not agree with us.

A.V. (Oatlands Park).—The various compound envelopes issued by Somerset House have no doubt in the first instance, been printed in order to use up old stock, and afterwards Somerset House went on printing them to oblige; there is really no *raison d'être* for it.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

	s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, OCTOBER 19, 1895.



BETWEEN OURSELVES.

We conclude in this number our interview with Messrs. Senf & Gibbons. As long as catalogues are published in different countries, by different

firms, a variation of prices will exist, which may in some instances show a peculiar discrepancy. We have often noticed that at a time when a stamp is snapped up in this country—readily at say £10—it hangs fire in Germany at half the price, and *vice versa*. If such a case happens persistently, the German dealers do not consider this particular stamp to be worth more than it actually realises there, and, as a consequence, the German catalogue puts it at that figure; but because he puts it at that figure, it is the height of impertinence to say that he does so with the intention to defraud. It is a matter of common knowledge that up till a year ago, Germany was the "happy hunting ground" for English dealers. British Colonials would not sell in Germany; there were no buyers to speak of, and therefore German dealers were glad enough to sell their Colonials to the English visitor who knew he had a much better market in his own country. On the other hand, just about that time old German States could be picked up in London "for a song," and we ourselves have for many months been in the habit of buying ten groschen Hanover at the current London market rates to send them over to a German dealer who paid us from 30 to 50 per cent. profit on our outlay. We well remember another instance. In Stanley Gibbons' catalogue, 9th edition, the Hamburg 4 sch. imperf. used, was priced 12/- at a time when everyone in Germany was happy to get one for 35/-. No one in Germany suggested then, that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons priced this stamp so low with the purpose of buying them cheap, although, as it happened, we called at Stanley Gibbons the day the catalogue came out, and asked Mr. Phillips to supply us with that stamp. However, he had none in stock. We could pick out similar instances, not by the dozens but by the hundred from that self same catalogue; but this one instance is quite sufficient to show that the Strand firm is not yet the "Pope of Philately"—*i.e.*, infallible! Reverting to this year's "pocket Gibbons," it is a curious fact that within four days of publication of the catalogue, dozens of stamps were sold by public auction at much above catalogue rates. It is simply one more proof that catalogue prices at the best of times are a poor guide to the value of stamps. There are plenty of mistakes in the "finest catalogue in the world," but for all that, it contains a mass of useful information. Mr. Phillips would have done much better in letting his catalogue fairly

and squarely compete with the foreign ones; but to try to oust a well-established work by means of foul accusations is neither fair nor worthy of the reputation of Stanley Gibbons.

Having written so far we turn to our *P.F.G.B.* for October just to hand. Every publication no doubt has its good and its bad points. If two journalists settle down separately, the one with the avowed intention to slate a given book and the other with the avowed intention to praise it to the skies, both will produce a thoroughly good review, if they are worthy of the name of journalist. It is a well known fact that Mr. Wm. Brown, of Salisbury, usually plays the part of echo to Stanley Gibbons, Limited. Knowing this, it is stupid to expect from him a fair and straightforward review of Senf's or Gibbons' Catalogue. We have over and over again stated that now-a-days one Catalogue is not enough. The work of compilation is of such a stupendous nature that even with the most scrupulous care glaring errors will creep in. We have never questioned the bona fides of Stanley Gibbons, but we do strongly object to their questioning the bona fides of Messrs. Senf Bros., who as a matter of fact, have a much larger concern than Stanley Gibbons and Wm. Brown put together, although this fact may not be known in this country. The very fact that their publication should go regularly every fortnight to 14,000 subscribers, and is in its 22nd year of existence, should be sufficient evidence of the magnitude of the house of Messrs. Senf Bros., who would be more than foolish to jeopardise their reputation by such tricks as Mr. Phillips and Mr. Brown suggest. It is stupid in the extreme to challenge Messrs. Senf Bros., in an English paper to supply certain stamps at certain prices. Had the reviewer of the *P.F.G.B.* sent his order for 50 stamps, accompanied by cash directly the Catalogue was published, he would no doubt have received a satisfactory reply. We notice that the *P.F.G.B.* copies a review published in the *Austrian Philatelist*, and in another part of its issue describes this review as the outspoken opinion of all Germany. Evidently the reviewer is not aware that the *Austrian Philatelist* is not published in Germany.

There are so many conflicting interests in stamps, that a difference of opinion, especially as regards prices, will always be unavoidable. To publish a Catalogue of the thorough scientific character of the "Green Senf," is the work, not of one, but of many years. Messrs. Senf have proved that every edition of their Catalogue has been better than the previous one, and it was left to a spiteful English publisher, who wished to boom his own Catalogue at somebody else's expense, and his parrot-like confrère in an English country town, to throw out suggestions of the foulest character. It is only to combat these suggestions that we have devoted so much space to this matter. H.H.

* * *

Decidedly the "S.S.S.S." was formed not a day too soon. Had its formation been delayed, the Government of a British Colony would have been able to unload a tremendous amount of gummed rubbish on the philatelic market. As will be seen from the latest circular of the "S.S.S.S." (printed in this issue of the *FORTNIGHTLY*) the Post Office department of New South Wales is offering for sale a large quantity of adhesive stamps, postcards and stamped envelopes bearing the official surcharge of "O.S." His Excellency, the Lieutenant-Governor, prompted by the excellent advice of his excellent Executive Council, has bethought him of this large lot of obsolete stamps as a capital means of raising the wind in the colony which he superintends. The thing is quite open—there is no sham modesty about His Excellency—and everything connected with the scheme is as barefaced as the exploits of Mr. N. F. Seebeck. The stamps are offered "to Stamp Collectors and others." Nor is this the worst of it. The stamps are not to be sold unused, but to be neatly obliterated with a hand-stamp consisting of the letters "N.S.W." in ellipses—a clumsy device to lead philatelists to suppose the stamps have been postally used.

When will postmasters—and, above all, postmasters of British Colonies—awake to the fact that the day for this sort of swindle is past and gone? P.C.B.

✻ The Truth about Senf's Catalogue. ✻

SOMETHING ABOUT THE INNER WORKING OF THE BIGGEST STAMP FIRM.

[BY SPECIAL DESPATCH FROM PERCY C. BISHOP.]

(continued from page 8.)

MR. HAAS first showed me the room of the head of the firm, Mr. Richard Senf. In this stronghold are kept all the firm's rarities—in an immense iron safe built into the solid wall. The firm's stock of high-priced stamps is immense—but of this more anon. Adjoining Mr. Richard's room is

THE EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

the special and particular domain of Mr. Theodor Haas. Here the famed *I.B.Z.* is planned and prepared, fortnight by fortnight. Messrs. Senf do the thing thoroughly in journalistic matters. They provide for Mr. Haas' exclusive use a complete collection of foreign post-cards, and also a very fine collection of stamps (Mem: Must see Hilckes about this when I get back to London). Then there are electros enough to sink a ship, and the thousand-and-one other things necessary in an editor's work.

Another door opens, and we come to the book-keeping department, where a number of clerks are buried in ledgers bigger than themselves. The next department is devoted to correspondence, which is a mighty factor in the business. One of the forty-two persons comprising the clerical staff is occupied exclusively in opening and distributing to their proper recipients the letters and other mail matter delivered at the building.



INSIDE VIEW OF PREMISES.

THE WHOLE OF ONE FLOOR

is devoted to the warehousing of publications and philatelic accessories. Though Messrs. Senf have sold the publishing rights of their album to another firm, they still sell the book, and have a large stock here. Then several tiers of shelves are devoted to the back numbers of the *I.B.Z.* This, Mr. Haas informed me, can never be supplied further back than two years. The gross circulation, by the way, of the German "Fortnightly" is 17,500 copies. Of these, 14,000 go every fortnight to regular subscribers; the others are always sold either as back numbers or in the form of volumes within two years of their date. Ah, well! our "S.C.F." may shortly have an equally bright report to show. Coming to the

STOCK ROOMS AND GENERAL OFFICES.

one is staggered by the machine-like order and routine governing this vast concern. The principal room in the whole building—the one we illustrate in this issue—is a hive of busy bees. About twenty persons are here engaged in sorting stamps and postcards, and making them up into approval parcels, and into packets and sets. On one side of this room are four giant safes of solid iron, all crammed with stock. Some idea of the vastness of that stock may be gleaned from the fact that one of these monster safes is filled entirely with envelopes and wrappers, and that another is devoted exclusively to postcards.

For a ready reference to their stock of ordinary stamps,

Messrs. Senf have twenty-two large volumes (specially made and printed for this purpose) in which all stamps of a value of 5/ and under are entered with their catalogue number, quantity in stock, &c. The same scrupulous care is taken with entires, and by this means the danger of overstocking, or suddenly running short of anything that is of only medium rarity, is effectually obviated.

In another large room near by, are large cabinets containing drawers fitted with numerous compartments—one compartment to each variety

of stamps. Here, of course, are the common and middling stamps, from which sets and packets are made up. To the making of packets of stamps containing a certain number of varieties, the system lends itself charmingly. There are say fifty compartments to each drawer. Somebody wants a packet of 1000 varieties (20/- in Messrs. Senf's list). Well, all you have to do is to pull out twenty drawers—for twenty times fifty used to constitute a thousand in the days when I went to school—take one stamp from each compartment, and there you are! In this same room there is a contrivance,

INVENTED BY MR. RICHARD SENF,

for the public exhibition of a collection of stamps or postcards. This is in the form of a cabinet, the drawers in which are

You won't rue it.

vertical instead of horizontal. Pull out one of these drawers and you have a panel of stamps—or, rather, two panels, one on each side. The specimens are protected by a covering of glass from dust, &c., and the nature of the cabinet, which is shut when not in use, frees them from the possible effects of too much sun.

Other rooms I looked into were the mailing room and the outgoing correspondence room; and in connection with the latter I must pause a moment to pay tribute to the excellence of Messrs. Senf's system of press copying and letter-filing. I had always thought that a certain Cheapside stamp dealer of the name of Hilckes was *facile princeps* on letter-filing, but I think the Leipzig people go him one better.

ONE THING THAT RATHER SURPRISED ME

about Messrs. Senf's business is the fact that they are not insured. The reason is that they feel quite safe without it. In the first place, they are in direct communication with the Leipzig Fire Brigade, being switched on to the head office by an automatic alarm; in the second place, they have seven big burglar-proof safes in which to store their valuables, and finally, all their ceilings, doors and shutters are constructed of iron. On the whole, there is perhaps some justification for their keeping in their own pockets the healthy premium which would be demanded for the insurance of such valuable effects as theirs.



OUR FORUM

*** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper*

identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

STANLEY GIBBONS' 1895 CATALOGUE.

DEAR SIRS.—As a constant reader and admirer of your Journal, which is unquestionably the best Philatelic paper published, I have read with much interest your leader on above named subject, also the valuable, and at same time amusing description of it by your correspondent, A. B.

His remarks are on the whole justified, though at times he appears to me somewhat severe in his criticism, as no one who has *not* compiled such a mass of detailed information, has a faint idea of the research and labour involved in issuing such a complicated publication.

I however agree with A. B. that this catalogue costing 3s. 6d. is not, as regards printing, binding, and more especially illustrating, to be compared to Scott's costing 2s. od., as one can from the latter's plates readily distinguish any difference in design, whilst Gibbons' engravings are too small and blotched to be of much, if any service.

The particular object of this letter is however to suggest that there should be among publishers some recognised descriptions and illustrations of colour, as the way they are at present mixed together is most confusing and irritating.

Gibbons' published early this year an album, which I have found most complete, and with few mistakes, and is by far the best and most reliable I have seen.

Their new catalogue however is entirely different, so far as many of the colours are concerned, as the following differences will show, and it appears to me purposely done to confuse and mystify the public.

The same stamps are variously called:—

Purple, Dark Purple	v Violet Black and Brown Violet.
Lilac Brown	v Brown.
Mauve	v Brown Violet and Lilac.
Rose Lake, Carmine	v Rose Carmine and Carmine.
Lake	Rose Red.
Bright Rose	Carmine.
Scarlet	Carmine.
Vermilion Red	Rose Vermilion.
Vermilion	Orange.
Yellow	Orange.
Grey	Olive Brown.
Brown	Red Brown.
Yellow	Yellow Brown.

The most glaring case I have noticed is in the Canada 10 cent, 1860-4. Their album, and also 1893 catalogue gives dark purple and purple, but their 1895 catalogue has Violet Black, 1s. 6d. Brown Violet, 2s. od. Red Lilac, 2s. 6d.

Another point which seems to me deserving of attention is the increased number of varieties now brought to light, more particularly as regards perforations, in some cases the slightest variations making great changes in value.

The effect it has produced on my mind is that I have determined to discard all such countries having these intricate varieties, as they are not worth the time and trouble investigating these minute and trifling details.

Apologising for the length of my letter, and hoping some more able pen may take up this vexed subject of colour.

Yours truly,

Waterloo, Liverpool, 26th September.

T. W.

ABOUT STAMP EXCHANGE CLUBS.

DEAR SIR,—The letter signed by "a Duplicate Exchanger" in your issue of September 21st, is admirable in its way, it touches upon a few matters which are at this moment exercising the minds of a good many members of exchange clubs.

May I add a few words to his?

- 1.—The remedy our friend points out, viz. to published a black list would land the publisher in a series of pretty little libel suites.
- 2.—There is a Society existing for the very purpose of reforming Exchange Clubs, not too rotten for the process, and the majority of the 70 or 80 Exchange Clubs in this country are known to the Society, and the character of each.
- 3.—If only one stamp collector will take legal proceedings to recover his overdue debt, it will do more towards the reforming (or extinguishing), rotten Clubs than anything else.
- 4.—At present the members of Stamp Exchange Societies have themselves to blame for many of the ills from which they suffer delays! Why, I have just seen a postal list that has taken nearly six months getting round to twenty-six members!!! Why do not collectors leave a Club of this sort?
- 5.—Every week we see advertisements of New Exchange Clubs. Any one can publish an advertisement, and if collectors will be so foolish as to join a mushroom society of this sort, they can blame no one but themselves for their certain loss. Out of 70 Stamp Societies known to me, those that are sound may be counted on one's fingers.
- 6.—Let collectors make proper enquiries before joining a Club. Let members of Sound Societies report (private and confidential) to the secretary the presence of any doubtful name in the list.
- 7.—The problem ever present with the secretary of the best Exchange Club is—

How to guard against fraud, and keep out undesirable persons.

How to get true members rigidly to observe the rules.

What test to apply to new applicants for membership.

This last is the great *crux*.

- 8.—There *are* Clubs now, run by responsible men, whose integrity and honesty can be vouched for—but when those members of a Club not conducted well, resign in a body, as suggested by our friend, "a duplicate exchanger" and come and ask to join my Club, how am I to distinguish between the good, the indifferent and the bad, or must I tar them all with the same brush, and say as of their late Club,—"rotten?"

Yours faithfully,

A CLUB SECRETARY.

Our Review of Reviews.

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

American Cancellations.

A NEW YORK correspondent contributes to *Meekel's Weekly Stamp News*, the following interesting particulars of a new American cancellation stamp, methods of cancelling:—

Boston and Washington have patriotic cancelling stamps in the shape of the national flag, but New York boasts to day of an electric device for cancelling stamps at the General Post Office which claims the public attention. It works automatically, the letters are stamped as fast as fed and it can cancel, its inventor says, up to fifty thousand letters per hour. Twenty thousand is the maximum that a man can now feed the machine with, as against five thousand which was the maximum of letters which the most expert operator could cancel with a hand stamp in an hour. The new instrument cancels and dates in a peculiar way which will attract the notice of collectors. The right is the cancellation part in heavy diagonal lines, covering three stamps, and the left prints date, hour and place, with movable type. Instead of the usual circular dater, the new one forms an oblong with two lines of lettering, first line for the place and the second for the month, day, hour and year, in the order named.

The N.S.W. Official Swindle.

Of course, the N.S.W. swindle is the topic of the hour, and the credit for first and most promptly exposing it and taking effective action in the matter belongs to Major Evans, as Editor of *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal*. Under the plain English heading of "The latest piece of Official Rascality," and as a special supplement after the body of his Journal had gone to press, he explains that:—

Taking advantage of the fact that the abolition of the use of stamps surcharged "O.S.," from the commencement of the present year, caused an immediate demand for the stamps so surcharged, the Post-office Department commenced (or continued) the sale of these stamps to collectors; at first, we gather, unused and at face-value, but afterwards in sets, all neatly obliterated so as to represent used copies.

Then follows a list of the labels, copied from an official printed circular, and extracts from local newspapers. The indictment is very properly wound up with a letter of complaint to our Colonial Secretary signed by the gallant major himself, who, by reason of his thirty-five years experience as a collector, claims to be in a position to do our swearing for us. A few extracts will suffice to show that the thirty-five year old knows how to state the case for the prosecution:—

SIR,—I take the liberty of drawing your attention to a matter which appears to me calculated to bring discredit upon an important Public Department in one of our largest colonies.

I am informed that the Post Office Department of New South Wales is offering for sale impressions of certain postage stamps that are no longer in use or available for postage; that these impressions, or some portion of such impressions, have been printed since the stamps which they represent became obsolete; and that not only do these reprints, or posthumous editions of obsolete stamps bear no indication of their real nature, but they are offered for sale obliterated in such a manner as to induce collectors of stamps to suppose that these identical specimens have actually been employed for postage.

I enclose a cutting from a Sydney paper, which shows that reprints are now being sold there with an obliteration, the effect of which is to entirely conceal their real character, and with the avowed object of making them more saleable to collectors. This, in point of fact, instead of being equivalent to selling Margarine without labelling it as such, is equivalent to deliberately labelling the Margarine as Butter.

Then the Major lets the Colonial Sec. into a few of the tricks of the trade, and concludes by stating that the whole business is an obvious fraud. It is to be hoped that the Colonial Sec. will take the matter in hand, and give Mr. Postmaster Cook a double dose of his most potent roasting.

With this evidence of barefaced official rascality before us, shall we require much persuasion to suspect that the Laureated Swindle was in all probability also an "official undertaking."

The Lithographed Stamps of Trinidad.

Mr. John N. Luff contributes to the *American Journal of Philately* an important addition to our knowledge of the manner in which the lithographed stamps of Trinidad were engraved on the stone for printing. The stone, it may be remembered, was exhibited at the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893. He writes:—

I recently had a most interesting conversation on the subject of this stone with Mr. H. G. Mandel. I know of no one better able to speak on the subject of stamps than Mr. Mandel. He is an expert in engraving, printing and everything which relates to the production of stamps. He was greatly interested in this stone and spent much time studying it, even giving it close scrutiny with a powerful magnifying glass. He tells me the stone is not a lithographic stone. After the impressions were transferred to it from the original die (Mr. Bacon's stone A) they were bitten in with acid. The stone is practically etched. This accounts for the surface appearing raised. Mr. Mandel assures me there can be no doubt this is the correct nature of the work. He is familiar with the process and studied the stone until he was positive his conclusion was correct, being attracted by this unusual and extravagant method of producing stamps. I say extravagant because the stone could only be used for a short time, since the comparatively soft surface would naturally wear away rapidly under the heavy pressure of the printing press. We may presume its maker expected it to be in use only for a brief period and considered it an easy and rapid means of producing a stone which would give more finished results than lithography. The beauty of the first impressions proves the correctness of the latter conclusion. It is scarcely to be wondered that Captain Weare and others called them printings from copper plates. Knowing how the stone was produced and its friable nature, we can readily see how rapid would be the process of deterioration. Periods of rest, with the ink but imperfectly removed, probably hastened its destruction.

Mr. Luff adds that he has been informed that on the return from Chicago the stone was smashed.

The Watermark on the First Fourpence of Western Australia.

The *London Philatelist* with its September No. presents its readers with two very fine plates of the first fourpence of Western Australia, and Mr. E. D. Bacon supplies some very interesting explanatory notes, from which we cull the following concerning the watermarking of these stamps:—

Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co's books show that the paper used for the first issue stamps was manufactured from a double pair of watermarked moulds, which contained the figure of a swan 240 times on each sheet; that is, 960 times in all. Now in the manufacture of this paper, a mistake was made in the arrangement of the wms. as they were placed in twenty horizontal rows of twelve (like the star watermarked sheets), instead of being in twelve horizontal rows of twenty, to correspond with the form of the One Penny plate. This error explains how it is the watermark on the first-issue stamps is found sideways. In the case of the transfer of the Four Pence, arranged in ten horizontal rows of six, one would expect to find the watermark correctly placed on the stamps; but although I have examined a large number of this value lately, I have not succeeded in finding a single specimen so watermarked. Should the watermark differ for the two arrangements in the way I have mentioned, it would prove an excellent test for distinguishing the stamps of one transfer from the other.

In Defence of Russian Locals.

Major Evans, in the *Monthly Journal*, takes up the defence of Russian Locals. He says:—

Some remarks that we have seen of late upon the subject of Russian Locals have led us to investigate, to a certain extent, their claims to consideration, favourable or otherwise, and we feel bound to report that the results of our investigations are decidedly in favour of these stamps on the whole. Russian Local Stamps are not articles in which we have ever taken any personal interest. We do our duty by them month by month, by copying the chronicle given in *Le Timbre-Poste*, and by occasionally endeavouring to describe

novelties obtained by our publishers; but we have allowed ourselves to be tempted at times to dilute our chronicle with the cold, or at least lukewarm, water of gentle ridicule, so that we cannot be accused of being unduly biased on their side. That these stamps are really required for local postal purposes there appears to be no doubt at all; the only question is, whether the power of issuing them is abused by the authorities in whose hands it lies.

During the last few years, in fact, from the early part of 1891, we have carefully filed all our chronicles of New Issues, &c., arranging the portions relating to each country, colony, or district under a separate heading, so that we can at any time refer to what we have said under that head in reference to any particular place, during some four years and a half. Our files are on slips rather shorter than the length of a column of this journal. Let us see now what space the Russian Locals have covered during the period mentioned. Turning to the new edition of our publishers' catalogue, we find that one hundred and thirty-nine of these districts (exclusive of Moscow and St. Petersburg) issue, or have issued, stamps. Of these, seventy-three, or a little more than half, have either commenced the issue of stamps, or have added to their lists during the last four and a half years; and of those that have thus figured in our pages only three—Bogorodsk, Griazowetz, and Ochansk—have occupied more than a column of space. Gadiatsch runs them close, and would no doubt have made a larger show if it had not contented itself with changing the colours of its stamps, instead of bringing out new designs, which are responsible for a great deal of space covered by Ochansk. Considering therefore all the circumstances of the case, and the temptation to make unnecessary changes, which is so apt to beset small places, we think that the Russian Local authorities may fairly be commended for their moderation. There are a few of them who seem inclined to overdo the thing a little, and there are several who make a practice of changing their stamps in some respect every year; but even so the new issues are very small in number, the whole of them would hardly fill more pages in our Albums than those of Honduras, Nicaragua, or Salvador during the same period. We do not ask our readers to make a run upon Russian Locals, because such temptation might produce dire results; but it is only fair to point out that comparatively few of these districts have laid themselves open to rebuke so far.

Wanted: A Dictionary of Colours.

The old question of colours has broken out afresh; this time in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*. May it never cease breaking out till some rational settlement is arrived at. The *P.F.C.B.* correspondent, who signs himself "Little Ben," wants a Dictionary. He says:—

It is not merely, or at all, a coloured chart, printed in certain shades or depths of colour that is wanted, but a new *Dictionary* of colour terms to be agreed to by the leading dealers in England and United States, and adopted in all their catalogues. A description or explanation of mauve tints, for instance, as above stated, would convey a fairly correct idea to a collector of what shade of colour was meant, and avoid the use of catalogues of such terms as "violet-red," or purple-blue, which would be as correctly expressed by saying blue-red or red-blue. Of course there are other mixtures of blue and red, such as crimson, majenta, &c., but these could also be similarly explained in approximately regular order in the scale of shades. Now and then peculiar shades appear that no simple colour-name will exactly fit, and compound or fancy words will be necessary, but such names as cinnamon, lawn, prune, and sea-green are at best doubtful, while Solferino, Waterloo, Admiral, and Pullman-car are unintelligible to the masses. The suggestion quoted from Dr. Benjamin as to composition of colours is an exaggeration of the above hints, but 13 parts blue, 37 green, and 50 black, if mixed together by anybody, would result in something more like "raven-black" as we used to call it, than what he says we should "see at a glance is a greenish-blue."

There should be very little difficulty (no more than there was over speculative stamps) in half-a-dozen dealers and collectors in England, and as many in the States, meeting together (in two groups for final comparison by letter), and settling that the colours of certain well-known stamps which have appeared virtually unchanged for a number of years, shall be considered the colours meant by certain names, and so a specimen colour chart after Mr. Potter's style could be formed; but the mere arranging of stamps or the printing of colours in all imaginable combinations will not settle the correct nomenclature of those colours. It is a question of colour names, not a question of matching shades, that has to be decided on a simple intelligible principle. One method of arriving at a preliminary answer before arranging a meeting as suggested would be to ask a dozen men and women to give their own ideas of correct names for the shades printed in Scott's "Standard Colour Chart," which has been largely

sold by most dealers and distributed the world over, in which most misleading names are now given.

We were under the impression that the difficulty lay in a lack of agreement as to what to designate certain shades compounded of various colours. Mr. Little Ben, I am inclined to think, will find all he wants in "the artists table of pigments" by H. C. Standage, published by Wells Gardner, Darton & Co., in 1883.

The Canadian Registration 2c. Brown.

A Canadian correspondent sends *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News*, the following interesting particulars concerning a 2c. brown registration stamp.

A Canadian stamp that is dropped by many collectors and uncatalogued by Scott is the 2c. registration brown. Chemical chingling is the name sometimes given to this stamp, and it is possible that few of the readers of the *WEEKLY* are acquainted with the facts of the case. In this color the stamps were first issued some time in 1885, and were distributed to a number of small towns in Ontario. Some months later the attention of the Postmaster at Toronto was called to this stamp, and as he had received no official notification of an emission in this colour, he caused enquiry to be made as to the authenticity of these stamps. A number of offices that had them on hand were communicated with, and all the answers were positive in the statement that the colour of the stamps when received had been a decided brown, and had not undergone the slightest change by the action of either time or chemicals. A number of these letters are in the hands of a collector here, and are proof positive that this stamp was issued a brown colour. Diligent enquiry has failed to prove this action as intentional or erroneous but it is none the less a fact and collectors may rest assured that a certain number of the brown two cent registers are genuine. The vermilion shade has been changed to a light brown, but the colour of the genuine stamp is a positive dark brown and cannot be mistaken.

Is it possibly a case of oxidisation?

Pecuniary Interests in Collecting.

The collector who wishes that pecuniary interests could be altogether eliminated from stamp collecting is not a common garden variety. Still there is a vast difference between consoling yourself for lavish expenditure by the knowledge that you have in return a realisable asset, and, say, amateur stamp dealing of the speculative character. But Mr. Dorpat, apparently, would almost be tempted to wipe out even the realisable asset. In *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News* he writes:—

It is altogether a pity that pecuniary interests enter so largely into stamp collecting. They degrade philately, and make, what otherwise might be a science or a pleasant pastime, to be a means for pecuniary gain, a welcome field for swindle, fraud and speculation, a nourishment for covetousness (in better English: hoggishness), materialism, and filthy stinginess. A stamp that is apt to bring a high price is the object of everybody's notice; while those that are the most important as *postage* stamps, doing the most duty, but being easily obtained, are generally neglected. That is not philately!

A *philatelist* will care less for the market value of stamps than for their history, their uses, their beauty, curiosity and rarity. Of course rarity and market value are in close relation, but it is a pity! It causes the lover of money to snatch up the rare stamps before the lover of stamps can touch them and then, prices go up until philately seems to be a pastime for the rich only. I do not begrudge them, if they be *philatelists*, and not merely *speculators on stamps*.

Suppose stamps should suddenly lose their market value, what would be the consequence? Would not hundreds, who now call themselves philatelists, become disgusted with their albums and those little bits of paper for which they hoped to get *money*? These are *not* philatelists, I dare say! A philatelist loves his stamps and the cheaper they get, the more he is pleased, because he may fill up gaps with more facility. This may seem enthusiastic, but I think it is but a just and proper distinction between philately and speculating on stamps.

NOTICE.

EXCHANGE copies of *Philatelic Journals* for notice in OUR REVIEW OF REVIEWS pages should be forwarded direct to the Editor, Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, Carisbrook, Birdhurst Rise, Croydon; and two copies as usual to the Offices of the "S.C.F.", 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

Class a—Superb condition, if *unused* with gum, (mint state), if *used*, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked *

Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, September 27, 1895.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
b	Antigua, 1/- violet	0	19	0
a	Bavaria, 12kr., perf. *	1	10	0
b	Bolivia, first issue, 10c. brown *	0	18	0
b	Cape of Good Hope, 4d. woodblock	2	4	0
b	Ceylon, 10d. carmine, imperf.	1	0	0
a	Dominica, 2½d. brown, CC., imperf. *	1	18	0
a	1/- carmine, CA. *	4	15	0
b	India, service, 2as. black and lilac	2	10	0
a	Madeira, 20r. bistre, imperf. *	0	15	0
b	Mauritius, 4d. green *	1	10	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d. slate-blue, plate 1	4	17	6
b	ditto, 3d. green, on laid	1	10	0
a	5d. deep green, imperf. *	3	3	0
b	another, used	2	17	6
c	New Zealand, 1/- blue-green, no wmk., serrated	2	8	0
a	Oldenburg, third issue, 2gr., red *	1	14	0
a	ditto, 3gr., yellow *	1	18	0
b	Queensland, 1d. red-brown, no wmk.	1	0	0
b	St. Christopher, 1/- lilac	1	0	0
a	South Australia, 1d. green, perf. and roulette *	1	7	0
a	Tasmania, 1d. serrated, Colonial Office cancel	1	6	0
b	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC. *	3	15	0
a	6d. ochre, CA. *	13	10	0
a	½d. on 6d. orange *	0	15	0
a	Trinidad, blue on blue *	0	13	0
a	4d. violet, imperf. pair *	2	0	0
a	1/- blue black, imperf., pair *	2	0	0
b	ditto, single, used	1	5	0
b	Victoria, first issue, 3d. blue *	0	12	0
c	Western Australia, first issue, 2d. brown on deep red	2	10	0
b	ditto, 1/- brown	0	16	0
a	ditto, 1/-, strip of five	3	15	0
b	4d. carmine, CC., perf. 14	0	13	0
Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, September 24-26, 1895.				
a	Alsace Lorraine, 4c. grey, net inverted, Feld Post; postmark	1	3	0
a	Antigua, 1/- lilac	1	2	0
b	Austria, (1883), 5kr. red, no figures in corners	1	5	0
b	Baden, Land Post, 12kr.	1	14	0
c	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf., pair	7	10	0
a	Barbados, first issue, blue, pair *	1	1	0
a	5/- rose	2	5	0
b	Bavaria, 12kr. perf.	1	12	0
a	Belgium, 5fr. red brown, postally used	1	10	0
b	British Columbia, 10c. blue on rose, perf. 12½	3	10	0
b	25c. orange, ditto	2	0	0
b	50c. violet, ditto	1	12	0
a	1 dollar green, ditto	3	3	0
a	British Guiana (1851), 1c. magenta, on piece	8	0	0
a	ditto, 4c. blue, ditto	14	0	0
b	(1853), 4c. blue, line above value	1	3	0
b	(1860), 1c. pink	1	4	0
b	ditto, 1c. red-brown	1	6	0
b	British Honduras, 6d. yellow	2	5	0
b	1/- grey	1	15	0
b	Brunswick, ½sgr. black on white	1	10	0
a & b	Canada, 7½d. green	£2	10s.	od. and 4 8 0
a	10d. blue	1	10	0
a	¾d. pink, perf. 12	1	4	0
a	(1870), 1c. red-brown on laid	2	5	0
a	Cape of Good Hope, 1d. woodblock	5	5	0
a	1/- emerald	1	6	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf.	17	0	0
a	9d. violet-brown, imperf.	7	10	0
a	1/9 green, imperf.	3	0	0
b	8d. yellow-brown, star, perf.	4	0	0
a	1/9 green, star, perf. *	3	3	0
a	5d. red-brown, no wmk.	1	9	0
a	9d. brown, ditto	1	9	0
a	5d. brown, CC.	1	12	0
b	2r. 50c.	2	0	0
a	Dominica, 6d. orange	1	0	0
a	1/- lake, CA.	9	0	0
b	France, 1fr. orange	6	0	0
b	French Colonies, 2c. red-brown	1	1	0
a	4c. grey	1	12	0
b	(1879), 25c. black on red	1	3	0
a	Gambia, 1/- green	1	15	0
c	Great Britain, the V.R. trial cancel, P. Hill's guarantee at back	6	6	0
b	2/- brown, Valparaiso postmark	1	18	0
b	£1 brown on bluish, anchor	1	8	0
a	£1 Maltese cross	1	6	0
b	£5. telegraphic cancel	2	4	0
a	Hamburg, ¼sch. black, imperf., oval postmark	1	3	0
b	7sch. orange, perf.	1	1	0
b	9sch. yellow, imperf.	3	10	0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green	£2	5s.	od. and 2 7 6
a	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown	1	0	0
a	India (1857), 2as. green *	2	10	0
b	Liberia, first issue, 6c. on 12c. red, vert. pair *	3	10	0
b	ditto, 12c. blue, imperf. *	1	4	0
b	Madeira, second issue, 240r.	1	6	0
a	Mauritius, Britannia, 4d. black and green	3	18	0
b	(1863), 1/- green	1	0	0
b	Monaco, first issue, 5fr. *	1	14	0
b	Montserrat, 4d blue, CA.	4	4	0
a	Naples, ½t. blue, arms	19	0	0
b	ditto, cross	4	15	0
a	50gr. lake	3	0	0
b	Nevis, 6d. lilac-grey, perf. 13	1	7	0
a	6d. olive, litho	14	0	0
b	1/- green, ditto	1	6	0
a	1/- blue-green, perf. 15	1	10	0
a	1/- yellow-green, ditto	2	10	0
b	1/- green, litho *	1	16	0
a	6d. green, CA.	11	0	0
a	1/- violet, ditto	2	14	0
a	New Brunswick, mauve, small margins	13	0	0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange-vermilion *	1	10	0
a	6d., ditto	3	7	6
a	1/- ditto, small margins	15	10	0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1	£1	4s.	od. and 1 5 0
b	ditto, 1d., plate 2	1	12	0
a & b	ditto, 1d., ditto on laid	£1	6d.	od. and 1 18 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 2	3	0	0
b	3 others	£1	1s.	od., £1 5s. od. and 1 12 0
b	pair with bottom margin	4	10	0
b	ditto, 2d., plate 3	£0	15s.	od. and 1 4 0
a	pair, worn plate	3	3	0
b	ditto, 2d., plate 4	1	8	0
a	pair	2	0	0
b	ditto, 3d.	2	0	0
b	another	1	2	0
a	another, on laid	4	0	0
b	New Zealand, 1/- green on blue	1	10	0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown	1	11	0
a	6d. yellow-green	£1	18s.	od. and 2 0 0
c	1/- violet, fine but slightly cut into	16	0	0
a	8¼c. * and 1 used	each	1	12 0
b	Oldenburg, first issue, ½sgr. *	1	14	0
a	second issue, ½gr. *	£5	5s.	od. and 6 6 0
b	third issue, ½gr.	2	6	0
b	another *	1	12	0
a	ditto, ½gr.	£1	8s.	od. and 1 10 0
b	Peru, medio peso, yellow	1	15	0

And what is more

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.	CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.
b	Philippines, first issue, 10c. pale red *	.. .. 2 2 0	b	Cyprus, 1/- green *	.. .. 1 0 0
b	ditto, 10c. carmine *	.. .. 2 2 0	b	Great Britain, £5	.. .. 2 15 0
b	ditto, 1r. blue *	.. .. £2 os. od. and 2 0 0	b	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown	.. .. 0 16 0
a	ditto, 2r. green *	.. .. 2 0 0	a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. medium early, deep colour	.. .. 24 0 0
b	(1863), 2r. blue *	.. .. 3 3 0	a	ditto, 1d., severed pair, same state, on piece	.. .. 28 10 0
a	Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf.	.. .. 2 17 6	b	ditto, 1d., early state, crease, on piece	.. .. 10 10 0
b	2d. blue, ditto	.. .. 2 0 0	a	ditto, 2d., medium early state, deep colour, grand	.. .. 210 0 0
a	Registered, yellow, imperf.	.. .. 1 10 0		margins, block of 4 (3 vertical)	.. .. 13 0 0
a	Roumania, 5b., blue, error	.. .. 2 2 0	a	a single on piece	.. .. 16 10 0
b	5b. carmine, ditto	.. .. 2 10 0	a	another, earlier	.. .. 29 0 0
a	5ob. red and blue, beard	.. .. 1 12 0	a	another, early ..	.. .. 10 0 0
b	Russia, 30k. wmk. 3	.. .. 1 10 0	a	another ..	.. .. 5 10 0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown *	.. .. 2 15 0	b	Naples, ½t. cross *	.. .. £3 15s. od. and 1 4 0
a	St. Lucia, 6d. lilac, CA. *	.. .. 3 5 0	b	Nevis, 1d. lake on bluish *	.. .. £1 os. od. and 9 0 0
a	1/- orange, CA. *	.. .. 8 0 0	b	4d. rose on bluish *	.. .. 3 17 6
a	St. Vincent, 4d. yellow	.. .. 1 18 0	b	4d. orange, engraved *	.. .. 6 10 0
b	4d. on 1/- vermilion	.. .. 10 10 0	b	6d. grey on bluish *	.. .. 4 0 0
a	5/- rose-red, star *	.. .. 25 0 0	b	1/- green on greyish *	.. .. 3 0 0
b	Saxony, 3pf. red *	.. .. 6 10 0	b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow, fine but creased	.. .. 4 0 0
a	South Australia, 1d. green, imperf.	.. .. 1 0 0	b	another, on piece with half of 3d.	.. .. 26 0 0
b	ditto, vert. pair	.. .. 1 14 0	c	The Connell, no perms. right side ..	.. .. 8 8 0
a & b	3d. red and blue	.. .. £1 os. od. and 3 15 0	b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange-vermilion *	.. .. 1 8 0
a	4d. violet, V. and Crown, vert. pair	.. .. 2 0 0	a	another, used ..	.. .. 1 4 0
b	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze	.. .. 2 0 0	a	4d. carmine on entire	.. .. 7 0 0
b	(1852), 2r. red * fine but no gum	.. .. 29 0 0	b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. scarlet, plate 2	.. .. 3 0 0
b	(1853), 2r. red * similar ..	.. .. 12 0 0	a & b	ditto, 1d. red on bluish, vert. pair	.. .. 5 0 0
a	Sweden, 24sk. bco. red	.. .. 1 0 0	b	3d. dark bronze-green ..	.. .. 2 0 0
a	Switzerland, Neuchatel, 5c.	.. .. 2 8 0	b	Laureated, 8d. orange ..	.. .. 2 0 0
a	Vaud, 5c.	.. .. 2 6 0	b	New Zealand, 1d. carmine, star, imperf. *	.. .. 2 0 0
b	Winterthur, 2½r.	.. .. 3 3 0	b	1d. orange, ditto, ditto *	.. .. 1 4 0
a	Zurich, 4r., horizontal, type 3	.. .. 21 0 0	b	2d. blue, imperf., pelure *	.. .. 7 10 0
b	6r.	.. .. £1 7s. od. and 1 10 0	b	2d. blue, ditto, star *	.. .. 1 0 0
b	Tasmania, 4d. blue, pin perf.	.. .. 1 0 0	b	6d. black-brown, ditto, ditto *	.. .. 1 16 0
b	(1870), 4d. blue	.. .. 1 6 0	b	6d. red-brown, ditto, N.Z.	.. .. 5 5 0
a	Tobago, 6d. ochre *	.. .. 3 3 0	b	1/- yellow-green, ditto, star *	.. .. £2 15s. od. and 2 17 6
a	Trinidad, 1d. blue, coarse litho, on piece	.. .. 5 10 0	a	Nova Scotia, 1d. brown ..	.. .. 1 8 0
a	1d. grey-blue, litho, on entire	.. .. 1 18 0	b	1/- violet, fine but torn across	.. .. 19 10 0
a	Tuscany, 3 lire, yellow, fine but small margins	.. .. 39 0 0	b	Oldenburg, first issue, ½th rose *	.. .. 4 14 0
a	United States (1851), 5c. brown, imperf.	.. .. 1 10 0	b	ditto, ½sgr. *	.. .. 1 16 0
a	(1855), 90c. blue	.. .. 4 4 0	a	second issue, ½gr. *	.. .. 7 7 0
a	(1861), 5c. mustard	.. .. 1 6 0	b	third issue, ½gr. *	.. .. 2 0 0
b	(1869), 15c., no grill	.. .. 2 15 0	b	another, error "Dritte" ..	.. .. 6 6 0
b	(1869), 24c., double grill	.. .. 1 18 0	a	Philippines (1855), 5c. vermilion	.. .. 2 12 0
a	Barnard's Cariboo Express (1858), red, line under name	4 0 0	b	Prussia (1856), 2sgr. blue, solid ground *	.. .. 4 5 0
a	Victoria (1861), 2d. violet, wmk. Threepence, imperf., on piece	.. .. 2 0 0	b	Queensland, 2d. blue, large star, large perms. *	.. .. 3 3 0
a & b	ditto, 6d. orange, beaded oval ..	.. .. £5 15s. od. and 6 10 0	b	6d. green, ditto, ditto *	.. .. 4 4 0
a	(1867), 1d. green, wmk. double lined 4	.. .. 3 0 0	b	St. Lucia, 4d. blue, star *	.. .. 3 0 0
b	Too Late	.. .. 1 10 0	b	6d. green, ditto *	.. .. 3 0 0
a	Virgin Islands, 1/- carmine, single line	.. .. 5 5 0	a	½d. black on green, CC.	.. .. 2 12 0
b	Western Australia, 2d. brown-red, impression at back *	3 3 0	b	Saxony, 10gr. blue *	.. .. 1 1 0
a	2d. brown-red, used	.. .. 1 16 0	b	South Australia, 1d. green, London imperf. * fine, but no gum	.. .. 7 0 0
a	6d. bronze	.. .. 2 12 6	b	2d. carmine, ditto *	.. .. 1 0 0
a	2d. brown-red, roulette	.. .. 11 0 0	b	6d. dark blue, ditto *	.. .. 4 0 0
b	Wurtemberg, 18k. blue, with thread	.. .. 1 7 0	a	3d. red on blue	.. .. £1 os. od. and 1 2 0
a	ditto, without	.. .. 1 5 0	a	Spain (1853), 2r. red	.. .. 6 0 0
b	18k. yellow, roulette	.. .. 1 9 0	a	(1860), 19 cuartos, penmark	.. .. 1 4 0
a	70k. violet	.. .. 3 12 0	b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r. *	.. .. 6 5 0
	Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, 1st & 2nd October, 1895.		a	Vaud, 4c., fine, on entire	.. .. 32 0 0
a	Antigua, 2½d. brown, CC. ...	.. .. 1 3 0	b	ditto, 5c., on piece	.. .. 2 10 0
b	Barbados, 6d. red, imperf. *	.. .. 2 5 0		(To be continued.)	
b	1/- black, imperf. *	.. .. 1 4 0			
b	Bolivar, first issue, 10c. green, penmark	.. .. 6 6 0			
a	British Columbia, 10c. blue, imperf.	.. .. 2 0 0			
a	25c. orange, perf. 12½, strip of 3 *	.. .. 3 10 0			
a	ditto, 2 singles, each	.. .. 1 0 0			
b	British Guiana (1862), 1c. pink, roulettes all sides	.. .. 18 18 0			
b	ditto, 2c. yellow, roulettes 2 sides	.. .. 9 5 0			
b	ditto, 4c. blue, roulettes all sides	.. .. 13 0 0			
b	Buenos Ayres, 3 pesos green	.. .. 3 10 0			
b	Canada, ½d. perf. *	.. .. 1 10 0			
b	6d. purple, *, fine, but no gum	.. .. 13 10 0			
a	ditto, perf. *	.. .. 13 0 0			
a	7½d. green *	.. .. 11 0 0			
a	10d. blue *	.. .. 11 0 0			
b	Ceylon, 5d. imperf. *	.. .. 2 4 0			
b	6d., ditto * 7 15 0			
b	10d., ditto * 5 0 0			
b	1/- ditto * 21 10 0			
b	1/9 ditto * 2 8 0			
b	2/- ditto 4 4 0			
a	1/- no wmk 1 5 0			

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Quarter Page 1 10 0	Quarter Page .. do.	1 5 0
One-Eighth Page 0 15 0	One-Eighth Page .. do.	0 12 6

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Half Column 0 18 0	Half Column .. do.	0 15 0
Quarter Column 0 10 0	Quarter Column .. do.	0 8 6
One Inch 0 5 0	One Inch .. do.	0 3 6

TERMS:—Strictly Cash with Order.

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On Monday and Tuesday, November 4th and 5th, 1895.

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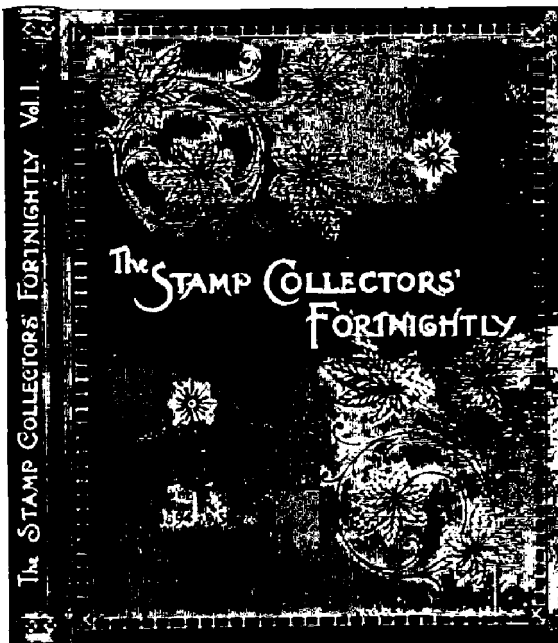
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Bremen, 5 sg., Perce en Scie, pair on piece of original	£ s. d.
.....	1 12 6
Bremen, 5 sg., Perce en Scie, one on piece of original	0 15 0
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Sicily, 50 gr., very fine	1 2 6
Grenada, Error, "One Shillings," fine copy	1 15 0
Fiji, 2 cents on one penny, V.R. (ornamental) unused, no gum	3 10 0
Fiji, 2d. red 0.6 cents, V.R. (ornamental) unused, no gum	3 0 0
Rumania, 50 bain, 1870, unused, with gum	0 6 0
Hamburg, 7 sch., imp. unused, no gum	0 13 0
Hanover, 10 groschen, good colour, no margins	1 10 0
Grenada, 4d., black and blue, fine pair, unused, with gum	0 5 6
India, ½ anna, blue, fine pair	0 7 0
India, 2 a. nas, green, fine pair	1 2 0
Newfoundland, 5 cents, brown, slight nick at bottom, superb copy	0 17 6

Cash with Order.

Please Note the New Address—

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100 STAMPS for SIXPENCE!!!

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Doings of Societies.

- BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- SCARBOROUGH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.**
- ROCHDALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- NORTHAMPTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

No reports to hand on going to press.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. T. Wilson, Esq. Vice-Presidents—R. Hollick, Esq.; W. Pimm, Esq.

Committee—Messrs. V. Lundblad, W. S. Vaughton, C. A. Stephenson, W. F. Wadams.

Hon. Sec. & Treas.—Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

QUARTERLY ACCOUNTS.—The March packet after circulating to 56 members was returned to the Hon. Sec. on July 9th. Accounts owing to members were all paid on July 9th, 10th, 11th. The last account due from any member was received on July 25th. We are pleased to again inform members that the Society has not yet incurred a bad debt, that it owes nothing and that nothing is owing to it.

August packet is one of the best ever sent out, and comprises £344 4s. 4½d., contributed by the members themselves, in addition to a packet of about £60 net cash; sent over by the Canadian Society. As on previous occasions the two will be circulated together.

The next meeting will be the "Annual General Business Meeting" on Oct. 3rd, to receive Reports and Accounts, to elect officers, etc. All Subscriptions expire on Oct. 1st.

ANNUAL GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING, Oct. 3rd. The election of the following members was confirmed—T. J. Rowland (Shanghai); Samuel Epstein (Johannesburg); H. E. Schmidt de Wilde (Paris); W. J. Martin (Falmouth); E. W. Heusinger (San Antonio).

The following were then unanimously elected members: Messrs. William Brown (Salisbury); M. Z. Kuitner (London); Dr. H. le Cronier (Jersey); Dr. Anachoreta (Lisbon); Messrs. E. H. Greaterer (Birmingham); W. E. Jeff (Colehill); T. D. Hume (Newcastle-on Tyne); H. Loveridge (Wolverhampton); Miss E. Lewis (Ramsgate); Messrs. A. Constantine (Birmingham); J. Winch (Colchester).

Votes of thanks were accorded:—Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited (Catalogue 10th Edition); H. L. Ewen (Catalogue 4th Edition); W. H. Peckitt (Catalogue); Manchester Philatelic Society (Invitation to their Opening Meeting); Met. Philatelic Club of San Antonio (Invitation to their Exhibition).

The officers were elected for the ensuing year as at head of this report.

The accounts showing a balance of £34s. 8½d in favour of the Society were audited, found correct and passed.

Additions and alterations were made to the rules, which will in future be published in the annual report, ready for distribution about October 10th.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to the officers for their services during the past year.

The following programme was passed:—

Oct. 17.—	Presidential Address.	
Nov. 7.—	Display.	Western Australia.
" 21.—	Paper.	U.S.A. 1847-69. Mr. C. A. Stephens.
Dec. 5.—	Display.	Italy and Italian States.
" 19.—	Paper.	St. Vincent. Mr. W. Pimm.
Jan. 2.—	Display.	West Africa.
" 16.—	Paper.	Great Britain. Dr. G. H. Hart.
Feb. 6.—	Debate.	Reprints for and against.
" 20.—	Display of Novelties and New Issues.	
Mch. 5.—	Display.	Tasmania.
" 19.—	Paper.	Argentina. Mr. G. Johnson.
" 16.—	Paper.	Hamburg. Mr. F. J. Lord.
Apr. 2.—	Paper.	— Mr. R. Hollick.
May 7.—	Paper.	Greece. Mr. P. T. Deakin.
" 21.—	Philately Display.	Mr. W. B. Avery.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The first monthly meeting of the Session 1895-6, was held on Tuesday evening the 1st, October, 1895. Mr. Stamford occupied the Chair, ten other members being present. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed and a new member elected, the Hon. Sec. announced that Messrs Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and Mr. H. L. Estrange Ewen, had presented copies of their Catalogues to the Society. Upon the proposition of Mr. Ebstein, seconded by Mr. Skipwith, a hearty vote of thanks was given to the donors for the same. A telegram having been received from the President of the Society, that he was unable to attend the meeting, to give an opening address as he had promised, a discussion was raised by Mr. Atkinson as to the pricing of the Stamps on the Society's Exchange Club sheets, which was continued by several members, but no definite decision was arrived at.

The next meeting of the Society will be held on Tuesday, the 12th November next.—W. H. Scott, Hon. Sec. 1, Piccadilly, Bradford.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The second Annual Meeting of this Society was held in the Society's Room, Central Café, High Street, on Wednesday evening, October 2nd, 1895. There were twelve members present.

The President, in opening the meeting, expressed his pleasure at seeing his Philatelic friends once more, and stated that in his opinion, we as a young Society ought to congratulate ourselves on the fact during our first session we had made no debts, but had a nice balance to carry forward; and he hoped that each member, by introducing new ones and helping in the displays and lectures, would aid as much as possible in making the Society a success in the future.

The reports were then tendered as follows: Attendances (Session I.) Sixteen Meetings were held at which an average attendance of twelve members was attained, the lowest being seven.

Exchange Branch: 14 Packets were sent out, comprising 84 books and sheets, value £180; amount sold, £28 8s. 8d., or equal to 16% of the whole. The Treasurer's report showed a satisfactory balance in hand of £45s. 11d.

After the reports had been read the following members were elected as Officers and Committee for the ensuing year: President, J. H. Hunt, Esq. Vice-President, Luis H. Abenheimer. Treasurer, Thos. Carter Clough. Hon. Sec., Robert Sneath. Hon. Exchange Sec., J. F. Peace. Librarian, J. Brammah. Committee, Messrs. J. Lee Pike, J. H. Chapman and A. J. Elliott.

It was decided to hold a display of European stamps at the next meeting of the Society to be held October 16th, in the Central Café, High Street, to which members are invited to bring their friends.—R. Sneath, Hon. Sec., 166, Devonshire Street, Sheffield.

G. HAMILTON - SMITH & Co.,
10, Bishopsgate Street, Within, London, E.C.

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- 3 Pfennig Saxony
- 50 grana Naples
- 2/- brown English
- 9 Crazie Tuscany (white paper)
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- 2½ Rappen Winterthur
- 1/3 C. moss green Oldenburg

Also a Grand Selection of all Countries arranged in separate books, moderately priced, any of which can be sent on approval on receipt of satisfactory references. [11]

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The *Whitehall Review* says, May 11th, 1895:—"The Young Queen of the Netherlands and her mother, the Queen Regent, visited 'The Royal Cycle Riding School,' 61, Euston Road, where their Majesties expressed themselves delighted with the clever riding of some of the lady pupils." [23]

THE STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.

President, Rev. H. Cummings, F.R. Hist. Soc.
Vice-President, Rev. G. H. Raynor, M.A.
Committee: W. G. Hawkins, Esq.; Guy Semple, Esq.; H. A. Slade, Esq.; and Dr. E. F. Marx.
Solicitor, Mr. Thos. Huggill, 118, Canon Street, E.C.

OBJECTS:—
To warn Secretaries of Exchange Clubs against undesirable collectors, and members generally against badly managed clubs.
To promote a more speedy circulation of club packets, and more prompt settlement of club accounts.
To bring well-managed and desirable clubs before the notice of collectors.
To arrange, through the Secretary's solicitor, for the collection of overdue club accounts.
To undertake the prosecution of dishonest collectors.
To arbitrate in club disputes.
To obtain expert evidence on the genuineness of stamps submitted by members.

Rules and further information can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. A. Wickhart, 70, Sotheby Road, Highbury Park, London, by enclosing stamped directed envelope. [17]

CHARLES MORTIMER'S SPECIAL WANTS.

LIBERAL PRICES PAID.

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- TUSCANY, 60 crazie,
- SWEDEN, 3 and 24 skills. bco.
- CEYLON, 4d. and 8d.
- NEWFOUNDLAND, 6½d. carmine-red.
- VICTORIA, 10d. grey.
- NEW BRUSWICK, 6d. yellow.

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½d. red, set of 15	13 7	6 3
1d. .. pl. 17 to 225	67 0	19 0
2d. blue, set of 7	4 1	1 8
2½d. lilac-rose, set of 18 ..	28 3	10 6
2½d. blue, .. 7	4 0	1 6
3d. rose, .. 19	17 9	11 6
4d. orange, .. 10	5 6	3 9
6d. lilac, .. 8	9 4	5 3
6d. grey, .. 8	8 11	5 9
1/- green, .. 11	17 6	10 6

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HOPE & Co.,

11] 75, Little Britain, E.C.

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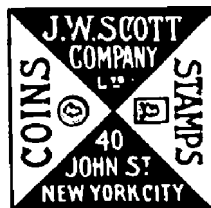
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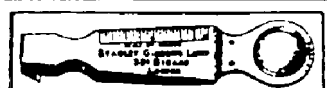
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PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 29.—No.3.—VOL. II. SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies: Stamp Exchange Protection Society.
 The Liverpool Philatello Society. The City of London Philatello Club. Roohdale Philatello Society.
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatello Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Sheffield Philatello Society.

HILCKES' AUCTION SUMMARY,

CEYLON. Imperforate.

Auctioneer and Date.	Class.	Description.	Price.
V 30 1 95	a	½d. lilac on white *	.. 0 14 0
H 17 5 95	c	ditto, lilac on bluish, cut close	.. 0 14 0
C 10 12 94	b	4d. rose *	.. 18 10 0
V 30 1 95	a	ditto * fine margins, colour and gum	.. 130 0 0
C 11 3 94	c	ditto * small margins, no gum, slight discoloration	.. 13 10 0
V 8 11 94	a	ditto, light postmark	.. 16 0 0
	c	ditto, corner clipped	.. 5 15 0
L 28 11 94	c	ditto, margin cut one side	.. 6 10 0
V 26 11 11	b	ditto .. ..	.. 6 6 0
	b	ditto .. ..	.. 6 15 0
L 14 2 95	c	ditto, mend at top	.. 3 15 0
V 28 3 95	a	ditto .. ..	.. 20 0 0
V 7 5 95	a	ditto .. ..	.. 16 0 0
H 17 5 95	b	ditto .. ..	.. 7 12 6
L 28 11 94	a	6d. light brown .. ..	.. 0 14 0
P 29 5 95	a	6d. brown on blue, pair *	.. 5 5 0
V 23 5 95	b	6d. violet-brown on blue .. ..	.. 5 10 0
L 22 11 95	a	8d. yellow-brown .. ..	.. 22 0 0
V 10 1 95	c	8d. brown .. ..	.. 9 0 0
	c	ditto, nicked .. ..	.. 4 4 0
L 16 1 95	a	ditto .. ..	.. 23 0 0
V 20 2 95	c	ditto, slight tear .. ..	.. 6 15 0
V 13 3 95	c	ditto, margins, but corners clipped	.. 2 12 6
V 28 3 95	c	ditto, torn through .. ..	.. 3 3 0
V 18 4 95	a	ditto .. ..	.. 10 0 0
	c	ditto, cut close .. ..	.. 4 0 0
L 1 2 95	b	8d. deep brown, large margins	.. 18 0 0
V 7 5 95	b	8d. brown, fine, but no margins	.. 13 0 0
H 17 5 95	a	8d. deep brown .. ..	.. 21 0 0
V 8 11 95	b	9d. violet-brown * .. ..	.. 10 0 0
H 17 12 94	b	9d. brown * .. ..	.. 1 16 0
V 24 10 94	c	9d. violet-brown, slight tear	.. 2 4 0
H 7 11 94	b	ditto, on piece of original .. ..	.. 2 6 0
L 28 11 94	a	ditto, on entire .. ..	.. 3 5 0
V 26 11 94	b	ditto .. ..	.. 3 3 0
	b	ditto, slight margins .. ..	.. 3 0 0

SPECIMEN PAGE.

SEASON, 1894-5.

Compiled by HARRY HILCKES.

AS Priced Catalogues seem to be of such very imaginary value just now, the publication of the above little work will no doubt fill "a long-felt want." The Specimen Page will explain the arrangement, and will show in a lucid manner the precise position of the Market during the last Season, thus forming an invaluable guide to Investors for the ensuing Season.

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1d. Carmine	...	"	0	6	1d. Carmine	...	"	1	6
2½d. Blue	...	"	1	0	2½d. Blue	...	"	2	6
4d. Red-Brown	...	"	2	0	4d. Grey	...	"	6	0
6d. Dark Green	...	"	5	0	6d. Pale Red	...	"	15	0
1/- Lilac	...	"	30	0	1/- Purple	...	"	50	0
DOMINICA—				ST. KITTS—					
½d. Green	...	CA.	0	4	½d. Green	...	CA.	0	4
1d. Carmine	...	"	0	6	1d. Rose	...	"	0	4
2½d. Blue	...	"	1	6	2½d. Blue	...	"	1	6
4d. Grey	...	"	2	6	4d. Grey	...	"	2	6
6d. Orange	...	"	12	6	6d. Green	...	CC.	15	0
1/- Carmine	...	"	*		6d. Grey-Green	...	CA.	*	
1/- Carmine	...	CC.	30	0	1/- Lilac	...	"	30	0
MONTSERRAT—				VIRGIN ISLANDS—					
½d. Green	...	CA.	1	0	½d. Green	...	CA.	0	6
1d. Carmine	...	"	1	0	1d. Carmine	...	"	0	9
2½d. Blue	...	"	3	0	2½d. Blue	...	"	2	0
4d. Mauve	...	"	6	0	4d. Brick-Red	...	"	5	0
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Holkar, 1/2 anna purple ..	1 3	9 0
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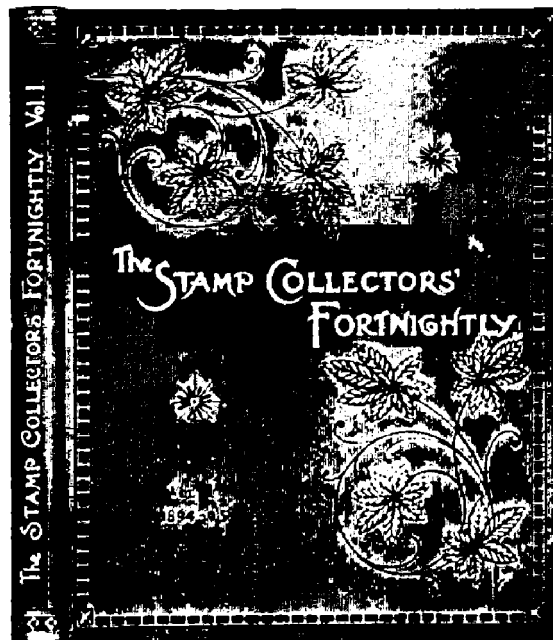
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THE STAMP COLLECTORS

PORTNIGHTLY

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

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HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.
Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

No. 29.—No. 3.—Vol. II.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	27
Gossip of the Hour	28
Philately at Home	28
Secret Marks of Switzerland	29
Philatelic Events	30
Philately Abroad	30
City of London Philatelic Club	31
Under Bennett's Clock	31
Between Ourselves	32
Mr. T. H. Thompson Talks	33
Our Forum	34
Answers to Correspondents	34
Our Review of Reviews	35
Auction Supplement	37

Whitfield King, taking as payment a number of rare stamps for which his philatelic soul had long yearned.

MR. WILLIAM HERRICK, who is so prominently identified with the American equivalent of our Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps, is one of the most earnest and go-a-head of American amateurs. His versatility is amazing. From the stamps of his own country, of which he has a fine collection, he will fly off to Russian Rurals, and then strike off at a tangent with a learned lecture on French Colonials. For some time past he has been the life and soul of the New York Philately Society (of which he is Vice-President), and the recent great revival in the activity and usefulness of that body must be attributed largely to the tireless efforts of Mr. Herrick.

THE gentlemen associated with Mr. Herrick, in the petition just drawn up and addressed to the various South American Governments are all men of light and leading in American Philately. Mr. J. M. Andreini is the active New Yorker who writes under the pen-name of "Iberus" for the philatelic papers; Mr. Alva Davison is the A.P.A.'s Vice-President, ex-Editor of the *Post Office*, and compiler of the "Philatelic Concordance." Mr. H. E. Deats is chiefly known for his fondness for collecting philatelic literature, and as for Mr. J. W. Scott, he is Mr. J. W. Scott.

SYDNEY philatelists lament the loss of Mr. John Blackshaw, one of the earliest members of the Sydney Philatelic Club, and an earnest worker, both in the interests of the Club, and of philately in general. Mr. Blackshaw had recently retired from the position of Exchange Superintendent on the ground of ill health. His continued illness appears to have so seriously prayed upon his mind that it became unbinged, and he shot himself at his residence on the morning of the 20th inst. Saddest thing of all: he leaves a widow and a young family.



M. STAMBOULOFF, it is now said, was a great collector of stamps, and had

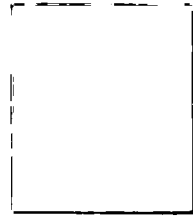
accumulated up to the time of his tragic taking off, about 40,000 specimens. After Stambouloff's assassination there was much negotiation for possession of the collection, which has now changed hands for three thousand florins, at which price it has been purchased by a Bulgarian dealer.

Now who is that "Bulgarian dealer?" A prize of three months' *PORTNIGHTLYS*, to the reader who can answer the question, giving the full name and address of the enterprising Bulgarian.

We are now waiting for some ingenious newspaper man to tell us that Lord Salisbury is specialising Transvaals, that Mr. Balfour is a generalist, and that a Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, being himself an ardent philatelist, has indignantly declined to impose a tax on stamp albums. We look forward to the time when some imaginative pen-pusher shall arise to tell us that Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, M.P., has disposed of his valuable collection of orchids to Mr.

To Postal Subscribers.

PLEASE find on this space a Frank Stamp of the Chief Secretary of Victoria, postally used, presented gratis to postal subscribers only.



If you desire honesty in the Stamps



BY ALFRED JINGLE.

TELL it not in the Strand, publish it not in the City! The Dukes and Earls, and the Specialists, both great and small, of the aristocratic Philatelic Society of London are going to take to swopping! Yes, sir! Swopping stamps! I have seen it in black and white! Official notice! Every other Friday is to be devoted to this pleblian amusement in the gay temple of the Premier Society.

And what an exchanging it will be! When Greek meets Greek, then comes the tug of war, they say; but when specialist meets specialist, what then?

May I be there to see Specialist Ebreubach bargain with his Worship of Brighton for a few of the lithographic errors of Oldenburg; or the wary "artful one" angling for a "laid paper" of Chili; or the gay old Philatelic hand smelling out a few early Nevis; or the Transvaalians jobbing a few compound roulettes, or reversed surcharges. 'Twill be a sight to see.

And I wonder if in the sweet by-and-bye, in further search for something to make the meetings more attractive, they will have a shot at "Auctions at Home," after the style of some of the American Societies. M.P., J.P. would make a capital auctioneer, with the gallant Major to throw in a joke or two. Of course, the auctions amongst such Philatelic swells would be confined to Post Office, Mauritius, imperf. and unused 4d. Ceylons, Early British Guiana, Brattlebros, and other such saleable Philatelic goods.

I am told that the philatelic temple to which I have been referring is now lit up by the electric light.

The Society's first instalment of the long promised work on South Africa is daily expected, and I reckon it will be out of print before Part II. makes its appearance, if Part II. takes so long in coming as Part I. has. Any way, I am inclined to think that the book will be a good investment; much better than India and Ceylon, which, it is said, has fallen rather flat in the matter of sales, despite the fact that it is one of the most exhaustive of the works published by the Society.

What does Mekeel mean by puffing himself out as a popular pillar of the movement for the suppression of speculative issues, and then abusing Seebecks right and left, and at the same time chronicling and illustrating as something worthy of note the very latest rubbish from Foochow. If Mekeel can afford to play fast and loose in this manner with his reputation, he must be a peculiarly constituted individual.

How often do we come upon evidence of the fact that the thoughts of great men not unfrequently run in the same groove. "Our old contributor" in some "Notes on English Stamps," in the October issue of the *Philatelic Chronicle*, has a good word to say for the collection of English hand-stamps indicting money paid for postage. In my gossip in your issue of the 5th of October, I remarked that the "hand-stamp" does duty for the adhesive, and tells the same story, and more; and is, I contend, a postage stamp. "Our old contributor" now says, "surely these are as much postage stamps as the more elaborate articles embossed upon the stationery one buys at the Post Office counter." Only he calls them "stamps used to prepay postage," which is scarcely correct. But perhaps that is splitting hairs. Anyway, I am content in finding that others

are inclined to place these interesting hand-stamps in the recognised list of what is philatelic and collectable.

Will some one get up some interesting facts concerning them? I imagine the subject is well worth perusing.

Perhaps Mr. W. T. Wilson could be persuaded to bring the article up-to-date that he contributed to the *Philatelic Chronicle* in November of last year, on the hand-stamp used in the United Kingdom during the years 1840-1852.



AN OUTSIDE VIEW OF PHILATELY.

WE do not remember having read at any time in any non-philatelic publication, such a column of good sense concerning philately as that which appeared in a recent number of the *Bristol Mercury*. "Philately," says the Bristol scribe, "combines instruction with pleasure, and this fact no doubt accounts for its present popularity. The average schoolboy probably learns much more practical geography by the acquisition of stamps, and his consequent endeavours to find their places in his album, than he does by many a lesson at his desk. Even older people often glean information of the countries of the world by a casual glance at the pages of a collection. To widen the range of philatelic usefulness, many minor States undoubtedly benefit pecuniarily by stamp collecting. When the defalcations of a President or of some high official, or a little dispute with a neighbouring country, interferes with the balancing of the exchequer accounts, then the authorities decide that it is desirable in the interest of the collectors in general, and of the State in particular, that a fresh issue of stamps should be made. This is the worst side of stamp collecting, and must be put down to the custom now in vogue of acquiring and collecting unused varieties." And so on, and so forth. It is evident that the *Bristol Mercury* has not yet heard of the S.S.S.S., but otherwise their knowledge of philately is extensive and peculiar. Long live the *Bristol Mercury*, and may the shadow of its paste-pot never grow less!

REPRINTS, AVAUNT!

WE welcome this outspoken denunciation of reprints, from the pen of the Philatelic Editor of the *Bazaar*: "If a poll could be taken we are pretty confident that the only defenders of reprints would be found to be schoolboys (who will collect anything in the shape of a stamp) and fourth-rate dealers who have a large stock of this rubbish to sell. We are glad to see that the best dealers now refuse to sell any reprints, for those things have done more harm to our science than all the forgeries ever issued."

STAMPS TO LEAVE SEVERELY ALONE.

WE are glad to find a list given in the *Bazaar's* latest "Philatelists' Supplement," of the various places from which local stamps, other than American and Russian Locals, have emanated. Here are the names: Aalborg, Aalesund, Aarhus, Arendal, Bergens, Christiansund, Copenhagen, Kustendjie, Czernawoda, Drammens, Drontheim, Fredericia, Gothenburg, Grimstadt, Holte, Holboeck, Kolding, Odense, Randers, Svendborg, Velle, Vilborg, Helsingfors, Tammerfors, Hammerfest, Holmestrand, Hortens, Kragero, Levanger, Mandal, Namsos, Stenkjaer, Tonsberg, Tromsö, Stockholm, Rigi Scheideck, Rigi Kulm, Rigi Kaltbad, Kurort Stoos, Maderanthal, Belalp. The list is not quite complete, we fancy, but 'twill serve. The names are frequently seen in dealers' price lists, and have occasionally crept into stamp albums of the shoddy order. Our younger readers would do well to bear in mind that though these stamps (so called) are pretty and apparently cheap, they are quite the reverse of a good investment. Any stamp dealer who trades in such rubbish without distinctly pointing out its true nature, is guilty, in our opinion, of a dishonest practice. These "locals" are not stamps at all—as we philatelists understand the word.

You cannot afford to do without the "S.C.F."

BRITISH STAMP DEALERS ON THE INCREASE.

We are in receipt of the latest edition of that most useful of philatelic annuals, Mr. C. H. Nunn's "Directory of the Stamp Dealers of Great Britain." This latest version is remarkable for many improvements in the compilation and arrangement of the book. We have not counted the names in our latest "Nunn," but from a hasty glance through its pages we will dare to say that British stamp dealers are considerably more numerous now than they were this time last year. "Nunn's Directory" is still 5d. post free, from the office of the *Stamp Collector's Journal*, 2, Guildhall Street, Bury St. Edmund's.

STAMPS THAT HAD BEEN IN THE SUN.

A COLLECTOR-DEALER of our acquaintance, who makes a practice of carrying scarce stamps with him wherever he goes, had a rather disastrous experience on one of the recent hot days. He had some scarce unused English, with original gum, and these, in consequence of the heat, stuck firmly to the pages of his book. The stamps adhered with provoking persistency and in removing them several were torn, while the others were no longer "fully gummed" when released from their sticking-place.

MR. PHILLIPS AS A STICKLER FOR ETIQUETTE.

MR. CHARLES J. PHILLIPS seems to have developed the knack of saying the wrong thing in the wrong place. In his report of the Stamp Exhibition at Ipswich, he takes occasion to gently reprimand Mr. T. Wickham Jones for placing a notice on his exhibit to the effect that he desired to purchase or exchange any stamps of his special country—Shanghai. "Mr. Jones," writes Mr. Phillips, "will probably hear of this again from his fellow members of the Society, who, we know, are sticklers for what may be called philatelic etiquette in such matters." And we suppose that, about the same time, we shall be called upon to welcome a work by Mr. Charles J. Phillips on "The Correct Etiquette of Good Philatelic Society."

NO ROOM FOR THE POSTAGE.

APROPPOS of the introduction of new Indian postage stamps, for the values of 2, 3 and 5 rupees, the story is told by a Lahore paper that some few years back, when there was no limit to insurance, a great banking firm sent an insured parcel to the value of one lakh of rupees. The insurance alone amounted to 250 rupees; and, as the space allotted for stamps was inadequate (there being no high-value stamps at that time), the postage stamps were pasted on a sheet of foolscap paper, which accompanied the parcel all the way to its destination.

SNAP SHOT AT A GERMAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE room is full of smoke—of course. The stove is doing "his" worst, the windows are hermetically sealed, and forty sober gentlemen seated at a long T shaped table (the president and officers at the cross end) are examining mysterious scraps of paper. Copious libations of the national beverage are continuously quaffed from strange shaped mugs which are frequently colliding to the "Prosit" of the genial amateurs. There is a total absence of excitable conversation. Criticism is confined to a smile of approval, of doubt, or of recognition of an old offender in new company. Dealing is fairly brisk, but proceeds so quietly one hardly knows that a market is being held. The extravagant value asked provokes little or no protest and brings no firm offer. What expert dealers these continental amateurs are! But the hour for examination and criticism is passed, business is slackening, and some of our sober friends are already discussing "Schnitzel" or "Kalbszunge," to the discomfort of their immediate neighbours. We are in a military country and the rule is "Present arms" before action, and philately and dealing produce hunger and thirst. Half of the company slowly departs, and the remaining number automatically agree to adjourn to a café, five doors farther up the road. Here the discussions continue of "gezahnt" and "ungezahnt," "durchstochen," "Wasserzeichen," etc., ad nauseam with the occasional exhibition by a jocund member of a "Fälschung" raising cheery laughter which the Kellner considers his privilege to share.—*Ignoramus Inivertus.*

The Secret Marks of The Stamps of Switzerland—1843-1854.

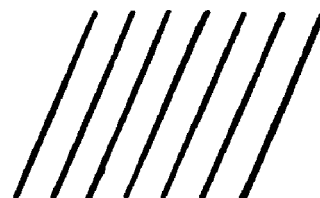
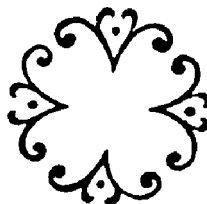
[This article was first published in 1893 by A. Larich, of Munich; the author, Freiherr C. v. Girssewald has kindly revised the German work for the special benefit of the readers of the "S. C. F."]

TRANSLATED BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 4.)

The counterfeits are all unsuccessful. In them the design of the eagle is all wrong; the lines in the right half of the coat of arms are all blurred, and their number is incorrect; there is no period after "Geneva"; the paper, instead of chamois coloured is brownish yellow, or light yellow, or even white.

With regard to their cancellation we find in these provisos the same ones that were used with the Cantonal stamps



that is the line and rosette stamp. Occasionally there occurs a P D in a circle or the rosette which we illustrate here. It is not known to us whether this line cancellation and this rectangle were ever found on these stamps. There exists however, a local cancellation, bearing "Geneve" in red ink and in a circle.

VII. POSTAL DISTRICT, CANTON OF ZURICH, ZUG,
SHAFFHOUSE, THURGOVIE.

October, 1849.

24 rappen, black and red.

This stamp is known under the name of "Winterthur Stamp," but it has nothing special to do with that locality.

A short while ago a block of 33 of these stamps was found, and its measurement gave out that these stamps were printed 50 to a sheet, five stamps to each horizontal row. These rows are 11.2 cm. broad. The stamp itself is an irregular rectangle, measuring in the middle 16 mm. in height, but only 15½ on the edges. The stamp measures 20 mm. in length but a little less on the edges. The cause of this is that the outer line, instead of being drawn straight, are perceptibly curved to the outside. The vertical spaces between the single stamps measure 3 mm., the horizontal spaces 3½ mm. In the middle of these spaces are arrows with red heads on either end, around which curves a ribbon in twelve complete evolutions. We give below the special marks by which the genuineness of these stamps may be established.

1. The round shield with the doubly framed cross hangs by two strings depending from the upper edge of the stamp. The left string is divided into eight parts, the right string into nine parts. Between these strings hangs a tassel.

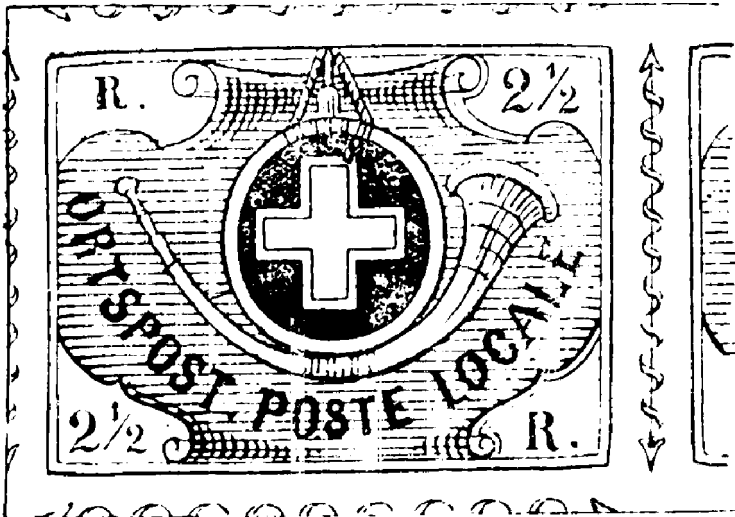
2. Beneath the cords and tassel and within the double frame of the shield we notice little strokes in groups. If we begin on the right, these groups have the following number of strokes 3, 2, 1½, 1½, 4. Specimens with less clear print have only 1½ strokes in the 2d. group.

3. Underneath the shield the horn bears a number of lines which resemble badly made letters.

4. The horn is united to the shield by two lines lying above the P of Ortsport. Near the mouthpiece this horn has a few strokes, one of them is over the O, two others slightly curved are over the R; the last one is between TS in the word Ortsport, this last stroke reaches a little on the outside. The other end of the horn has also four cross strokes of which the 3d. one does not reach to the side of the horn.

We hardly think so.

5. The shield which forms the back ground for post horn, coat of arms and inscription, shows below two curls. The



right one which is visible on the left of the R rests on the lower frame line, and forms so to speak, a part of it. On the left this curl rises slightly above the frame line.

6. There is a period after each R, in the upper left and lower right corner. Neither these R's nor the figure indicating the value, touch the frame line of the stamp.

7. The second O in the word Ortspost is quite remarkable. It has a vacant space on the left side and looks more like a D.

8. The large shield is crossed by red horizontal lines reaching clear across the inscription Ortspost, Poste Locale. From the top to the bottom of the stamp 39 such lines may be counted.

The space arrows denoted the places where the stamps were to be divided; therefore we find on the four sides of the stamps only parts of these arrows and of their spiral ribbons.

If the above points are carefully borne in mind, a counterfeit will always be detected. Usually the false division of the cord, the wanting of a period after the upper R, and the closed O in Ortspost, are sufficient to establish the genuineness of a specimen. The most common cancellation mark is the black rosette which we have described in connection with the stamps of the Canton of Zurich; very seldom it occurs in blue. I have never seen it in red on a Winterthur stamp. Frequently, however, a black P P cross occurs and later the black line cancellation. The letters P P mean Postage paid. Occasionally one finds a stamp cancelled in Appenzell or St. Gall, proving that the authorities allowed these stamps to have course in those localities.

(To be continued.)

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING NOV. 16th.

All News for this column must reach the office first post on Wednesday previous to date of publication.

Auction Sales.

- Nov. 6th & 7th.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63-4, Chancery Lane, at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Nov. 12th & 13th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Hall, Charing Cross, at p.m. each 6 day.
- Nov. 11th.—Mr. Wm. Hadlow, at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, at 6 p.m. precisely.

City of London Club.

- Fortnightly Meetings at 121, Cheapside, Cossavella's Restaurant, every other Thursday, at 7.30 p.m.
- The Annual Meeting will take place on November 14th.

London Philatelic Exchange.

- Nov. 5th.—121, Cheapside, E.C., Cossavella's Restaurant.



PHILATELISTS AS REVENUE PROVIDERS.

WE are told, on the authority of a British Consul, that in Macao postage stamps are regarded as a legitimate source of revenue. "Notice of the trade and finance of the Colony," he writes, "would be incomplete" without some reference to the changes in the postal issues. I believe the S.S.S.S. will soon relieve this conscientious Consul of an appreciable portion of his work.

PHILATELY'S PRACTICAL SIDE.

STAMP-COLLECTING has its practical side, quite apart from the commercial aspect of the question. A little while ago, "O & Crown" tells us in *The Post Office*, three Justices of the Peace were trying a case in a Queensland town. The chairman knew enough of stamps to be able to tell a blue-back from a small-star, and as part of the evidence a document was put in, which the witness deposed on oath was written, signed, and stamped on the 31st January. "That stamp," said the chairman quietly to his brother magistrates, "was not issued till the 28th February," and although the stamp was not direct evidence it "went to credit," as lawyers say, showing the witness was not fully reliable. He lost his case.

BIC "FIND" OF St. LOUIS STAMPS.

A WONDERFUL "find" of rare St. Louis stamps has been made during a "clear-up" in the Louisville Court House. The haul included several copies of the *rara aves*, the 20c. variety, and there was a vertical strip of three, consisting of two 20c. and one 5c. This strip now reposes securely in the collection of a well known American philatelist, and no matter how large the original "find" may prove to be, it will probably remain unique.

The full extent of the discovery is still unknown, but it consisted of over 100 stamps, containing at least fifteen of the 20c. value, and they have all been secured by the two leading houses in the American stamp trade.

ENGLISH "AS SHE IS WROTE" IN JAPAN.

FROM *The Philatelic World* we scissor the following example of English as she is wrote in Japan. It was recently received along with a price list of Japanese stamps, from a firm in Tokio: "Dear Sir, We, having established us a largest and reliable stamp company in Tokyo, wish to have the pleasure of receiving orders from all the dealers in the world. We have decided to sell our stamps nearly without profit during the commencement of the establishment of our firm. Everyone would wonder of the cheapness of price quoted in this wholesale list and orders at once before it should be raised. No exchanges accepted unless specially arranged, and cash remittance is necessary, rest the first class reference only should be offered. Yours truly, etc." Here is a chance for specialists in Japan. No necessity now to "wonder of the dearness of price" quoted in other wholesale lists!

HOW TWO PHILATELISTS MET.

MR. EVERY PAGET tells this pretty story in the *Bay State Philatelist*: "Riding on my 'wheel' recently in a rather negligent manner, a young lady on another 'wheel' came rapidly around a corner, and, presto! ere I had time to look up, we had collided, and both had been thrown off. Noticing blood upon her forehead, I hasten to her side and inquired if she was badly hurt. 'Slightly peeled on the forehead,' she replied, 'but otherwise a perfect specimen.' I bound my handkerchief around her wound and proceeded to collect our wheels. I notice the front wheel of her bicycle was bent and the tire was limp. I examined it and found it was a 'pin perforation.' The doctor pronounced the wound not serious, and said she would be all right in a few days. During my

If you wish to receive the "S.C.F." regularly

frequent visits to inquire of her condition, I discovered she was a philatelist—a general collector with a well filled album. Her name was Miss —; but I am wandering, I fear, from my subject. "It was not an ordinary occurrence."

STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ABROAD.

The "Trilby" boom in the States, has reached philately. One of the dealers there advertises a "Trilby" packet.

Canadian Fiscals are booming! Mr. Adam Williams in the *Canadian Philatelic Magazine* states that a complete set of Canadian Revenues totals up, in catalogue value, to \$817.

It is significant that the two leading German encyclopaedias, "Meyer," and Brockhaus," recognise philately in their latest issues.

An Indian paper which takes occasion to inform Mr. William Brown, of Salisbury, that the Bussahir stamps mentioned in his paper are speculative, concludes with the remark "that the Bussahir stamps are stamps of the same stamp as the Nyassaland stamps." This is unkind.

Two persons in the United States have the franking privilege for life—namely, the widows of President Grant and President Garfield. Letters and packages sent either by them or to them are free and do not require to be stamped.

MR. PIERRE MAHE goes into two columns of letterpress in his paper to show that there are no "unique" stamps.

Mr. J. Calvert, a Philadelphia dealer, is making a determined and systematic effort to "corner" unused, \$2 Columbians.

Judge Suppantchitsch, writing in *Die Post*, states that the first stamp catalogue ever published, was that issued by Oscar Berger Levrault, in September, 1861. It was reproduced in Levrault's handwriting, by lithographic process, and gave descriptions of 973 stamps.

City of London Philatelic Club.

HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of:—The "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY," *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, *The Stamp Collectors' Journal*, *The Stamp News*, *The Philatelic Record*, *The Monthly Journal*, A. Smith & Son's *Monthly Circular*, and *Monthly Offers*.

From France: *L'Intermédiaire de la Timbrologie*, *L'annonce Timbrologique*.

From Germany: *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt*.

From Spain: *El Heraldico Timbrologico*.

From the United States: *The Metropolitan Philatelist*, *The American Journal of Philately*, *McKee's Weekly Stamp News* (Nos. 244, 245, 246, and 247), *The Post Office*, *The Evergreen State Philatelist*, *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*, *The American Philatelic Magazine*, *The Postal Card Society's Monthly Bulletins* (Vol. II., Nos. 1 to 7).

From Mexico: *El Monitor Filatelico*.

From Buenos Ayres: *El Filatelista Sud-Americano*.

Auction Catalogues from Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, and Mr. W. Kidout.

Mr. Forbes also thanks Messrs. C. H. Nunn & Co. (Bury St. Edmunds) for copies of their philatelic publications.

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings at Cossavella's Restaurant, 121, Cheapside, E.C.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP,

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.



IN looking through the latest issue of the *London Philatelist*, which by the way, is a splendid number from a philatelic point of view, I notice a letter signed "A Member of the Philatelic Society," in which the high prices ruling for English philatelic literature are discussed. I thoroughly sympathise, but cannot agree, with the writer. His first point, that the catalogues of Scott and Senf are published at 2/- whereas that of Stanley Gibbons costs 3/6, is an argument that I cannot refute; and the fact is one that I cannot understand. Messrs. Senf print 25,000 copies of their catalogue, and I daresay the Scott Stamp and Coin Company issue a like number of theirs. How many Stanley Gibbons dispose of I do not know, but if they saw any prospect of selling any number approaching to 25,000, they could easily reduce

their price to 2/- and still make the catalogue a very comfortable success, financially. I do not make this statement without knowledge of the facts, for I happen to know exactly what Messrs. Senf's catalogue costs to produce, from 5,000 copies upwards. If Stanley Gibbons, therefore, cannot see their way to selling for less than 3/6, it seems to me to be pretty obvious that their circulation cannot be anything approaching to that of Messrs. Senf, or of the Scott Company.

When the writer of the letter under notice goes on to say that the little Catalogue of English Adhesives I published last year was too expensive, he loses sight of the fact that it is one thing to publish a book which appeals to all philatelists, and quite another to issue one that will be bought only by a limited number of specialists—specialists who, in this particular case, did not really exist prior to the publication of my book. It is a matter of common knowledge that two years ago English specialists were an unknown quantity. Already I have decided to publish the next edition of my catalogue at a lower price, the great success of the first edition justifying this reckless generosity.

Again the *London Philatelist's* correspondent goes on to say that Mr. Earee's book, "Album Weeds," published at 10/6, should be issued in cheap form at 2/6. I venture to say that if Messrs. Stanley Gibbons followed this tip they would lose from two to three shillings on every copy of the book they sold, even if they printed an edition of 2,000 copies.

There is yet one more little item which this correspondent (who is evidently not a philatelic publisher) overlooks, and that is the perversity of human nature. A man, and especially a philatelist, is quite willing to spend his cash on his hobby, but he hates to pay for information and accessories. I find it far easier to sell a man £5 worth of stamps than an eighteen-penny pocket book. And if the purchasers of catalogues and philatelic publications did not see the probable monetary results of their purchases, I am afraid none of the existing books would have made their appearance.

Auction Summary.—Should I not be able to publish at the advertised time of November 5th, I hope my customers will be good enough not to inundate me with enquiries. The book will be forwarded as soon as ready.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	... ..	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	... ..	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 2, 1895.



BETWEEN OURSELVES.

WITH striking unanimity the philatelic Senf journals of all countries and all languages have taken up the cudgels for Messrs. Gibbons. Senf in the great Catalogue Controversy, defending the Leipzig firm against the spiteful and unjust attacks of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and William Brown, Unlimited. It is quite clear that Stanley Gibbons, in attacking Senf Brothers, aimed only at making capital for the new edition of their own catalogue. The gigantic sale in this country of the "Scott" and "Senf" Catalogues was becoming a most serious thing for them. Something, it was decided, must be done to keep "Stanley Gibbons" in the forefront. What better plan than to copy all the best ideas of their rivals, and then set about systematically libelling them? Not a very honourable plan, certainly; but it was the one formed and followed by Stanley Gibbons, Limited. Whether the methods of this firm—hitherto considered one of the best stamp concerns in the world—entitle it to the reputation which took thirty years to build up, we leave to our readers to decide. But there is no doubt that they have done themselves an immense amount of harm in attacking a well-established publication, which has proved perhaps of more value to philatelists during the last four years than all the publications of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and William Brown put together. Messrs. Senf's Catalogue has been for the small and medium collector more a handbook than a mere catalogue; and as such the book was published at a price quite out of proportion to the value of its contents. When first published it proved such a success as to far exceed the most sanguine expectations of Messrs. Senf, who as a matter of fact printed only 6000 copies of their first Catalogue, thinking that that number would surely be enough for any demand; whereas in the end they had to reprint the book four times within the twelve months, 16,000 copies being the total sale.

We read to-day in the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, which we have often mentioned in these columns as being without

doubt one of the foremost stamp papers in Germany, a critique of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue which exposes the pitifully shoddy character of the get up and general arrangement of "the best catalogue in the world." Stamps which have long been recognised as non-existent are religiously catalogued (France 20c. Bordeaux print, for instance!); and other stamps which are of "absolutely no interest to the philatelist" are included to suit the commercial purpose of this "best of all catalogues." Such rubbish as rural Danish and Norwegian "stamps," &c., are not only catalogued and priced as if philatelists were really in the habit of buying and selling such trash.

That so many Chinese Locals are included in Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue may or may not be for the reason that part of the catalogue had been printed before the formation of the S.S.S.S. (By the way, Mr. William Brown, of Salisbury, still offers Chinese Locals, *although belonging to the Committee of the S.S.S.S.!*) Other stamps which are quite common and should have been priced are conveniently skipped, thus creating in the mind of the collector an erroneous idea of their value—that is in the mind of the collector who believes in the infallibility of Stanley Gibbons, Limited.

The logical outcome of all this discussion is simply this, that no one existing catalogue can be accepted as infallible, or as "the best." They all have their good points; they all have their bad points, and the careful philatelist cannot properly pursue his hobby without possessing three or four of the leading works.

We should never have entered upon this discussion, to which too much of our space has been given, but for Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' slanderous attack upon the Leipzig firm, an attack which was neither justifiable nor worthy of anyone claiming the name of gentleman.

H.H.

* * *

WE have pleasure in complying with the request of Messrs. Madagascar John Haddon & Co., that we publish the document given hereunder, relating to the formation and administration of the "British Inland Mail" of Madagascar.

Translation. ANTANANARIVO, July 4th, 1895.

Agreement made with respect to Malagasy and British Mails, commenced on April 2nd, 1895:—

- 1.—The Inland Mail in Madagascar will be conducted by the Malagasy Mail.
- 2.—The Mail for Abroad is to be received by the British Mail in their office, and there made up by them, as is usually done by them; but the letters are to be read at the Madagascar Foreign Office before being despatched.
- 3.—The conveyance to the coast of the bags containing the letters shall be done by the Malagasy Mails, and the Governor of Votamandry is to deliver it to the Agent of the British Mail there as soon as possible.
- 4.—A sum of 2d. is to be paid by the British Mail on every letter for Abroad, weighing not over 2/- (1050) weight, and ½d. on each packet of \$16 (ariary) weight, and the same amount of money is to be paid on Mails from Abroad.
- 5.—Every letter for Abroad is to be stamped with the postage stamp of the British Mail.
- 6.—The Mail arriving at Votamandry from Abroad, for transmission to Antananarivo, is to be delivered by the Agent there of the British Mail to the Governor, who will send it up as soon as possible to the Malagasy Foreign Office, for delivery to the addresses, and the Governor is to send a telegram announcing its despatch.
- 7.—The above has for the present been agreed upon with regard to the mails, until the Malagasy Government shall become able to undertake the matter entirely.

(Signed.)

AUDRI AUISSIDY,

For Malagasy Mail.

S. P. PORTER,

For British Mail.

All that this document proves is that the stamps are genuine locals, and this we have never disputed. P.B.

Mr. T. H. Thompson Talks.

THE STORY OF TWO BIG "SPECS" THAT HAVE ENRICHED THE MAN FROM BISHOP AUCKLAND.

(By Our Special Commissioner).



DURING the past few weeks the residents in Malvern Rd., Kilburn, have been startled from their wonted calm by the coming of a new tenant to the "one-hundred-and-twenty-oneth" house in that classic thoroughfare. The new comer is one Thompson, lately resident at Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham; but what chiefly puzzles Malvern Road is the new name painted up on the gateway of No. 121. "Leeward Villa" is puzzling to the uninitiated. It suggests rather a home of rest for ancient mariners than a home of rest for ancient postage stamps. Philatelically, however, Mr. Thompson could not have selected a

better name for his new abode than "Leeward Villa," unless perhaps he called it "Leeward Islands." You laugh at the idea; but why not? We have had it laid down by no less a person than the erudite Squeers, of Dotheboys Hall, that there is no Act of Parliament to prevent a man calling his house an island if he so desires; if one island, why not a whole archipelago?

These were my reflections as I traversed the imperf. and well-centred lawn that leads up to Mr. Thompson's knocker. And two minutes later I was seated on a trunk full of rarities listening to as interesting a story as ever fell upon philatelic ear—the story of Thompson's two great coups.

"How I came to buy the Leewards?" said he—"Oh yes; nothing simpler. You may or may not recollect that a formal printed notice, dated Aug. 10th, 1891, was issued by the Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands, inviting tenders for the whole remaining stock of the postage stamps of Antigua, Montserrat, Nevis—well I needn't go through the list—the whole of the group known as the Leeward Islands.

"Now this was not my first intimation of the projected sale. I heard of it months before from a correspondent in the islands—in fact, three months before the Colonial Secretary's notice appeared I had written him on the subject, asking that I might be allowed to tender for the stamps. Much time elapsed and then I got that notice with an intimation that the matter had been placed in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Downing Street, London. So then I addressed myself to Downing Street, and in due course made my tender, and also in due course—with a great deal of accent on the "due course"—received the information that my tender was accepted."

"Which pleased you?"

"Well, I can't exactly describe my feelings at that time. That was when I was auctioneering here in London, and it was during one of my sales that a wire arrived from my wife informing me of the Crown Agents' acceptance. People who were in the auction room at the time tell me I went as white as a ghost. The auctioneer—I was not wielding the hammer myself—wanted me to announce the news there and then, but I declined. To tell the truth I don't know whether at that moment I felt glad or sorry. It was such a big thing for me to undertake."

"But it has turned out a big success, Mr. Thompson?"

"It has indeed. I felt sure it would. I knew, or I felt quite convinced, that the stamps would go up. Why, even at that time they ran into something very near £30,000 at catalogue prices, whereas the face value of the whole stock was only £4,788."

"The way I thought out what my tender should be was this. I made up my mind that I must offer more than face value. I knew very well the Government would not accept less; in fact, I had been told that they would prefer to make a bonfire of the stamps. Then, thought I, some other dealer might offer £5,000; so I must go to at least £5,500 to make sure of the deal. Then, again, it occurred to me that 'the other fellow,' arguing just the same as I did, would offer as much as £5,500. So, to make a long story short, I tendered £5,800, and got the stamps."

Mr. Thompson has acquired a glib way of talking of large amounts of money that is most disquieting in its effect upon a high strung temperament. As I jotted down his remarks in my note-book, I found myself wondering vaguely whether it would be practicable to overpower him with my fountain pen and then decamp with the treasures of Leeward Villa.

"The stamps," Mr. Thompson went on, "have gone up tremendously, as you know. The rise has exceeded my anticipations. See, here are some figures that will interest you"—showing me a long table of pounds, shillings and pence. "Look at the total—£61,429—that represents the present catalogue value of the little lot I bought."

"This was coming it to strong. I gripped my inky weapon and breathed hard. And to save myself from my own emotion I asked a question.

"Are not these Leewards still available for postage, Mr. Thompson?"

"Well, it's a curious thing that the authorities will not say definitely one way or the other. They will not say the stamps are demonetized, and yet will not admit that they are available for postage. I contend that they are as good now for the prepayment of letters as ever they were; and in any case it is quite certain that they have been used since the sale of remainders to me. Here is proof of that."

And Mr. Thompson showed me an envelope franked with six of the St. Kitts provisional halfpennies ("halfpenny" surcharged on half of stamp) which envelope was clearly postmarked 1893.

"The Fijian purchase," Mr. Thompson continued, "was another happy 'spec' for me. Many people insinuated that the Fijis I bought were so many reprints specially prepared for me; so I promptly wrote the Governor of the Colony, and received this reply."

Saying which Mr. Thompson handed me the following letter for perusal. It is well worth giving in full:—

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, FIJI,
Suva, 7th August, 1890.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th May last, which has been laid before the Governor, who has perused it with surprise.

It is not to be supposed that a stock of old stamps, and, as such, valuable stamps, would be sold by the Government of a British Colony to your firm unless they were genuine; and this Government could not lower itself by attempting to protect itself from the slanders of persons, collectors or otherwise, who aver that such stamps were simply sheets printed for sale to your firm.

His Excellency is fully acquainted with the adoption, engraving and printing of the stamps in question, and considers that this letter, written by his command, certifying that the whole of the stamps sent you are genuine, is sufficient warranty for any collector or dealer.

I have the honour to be, etc., etc.,

ASSISTANT COLONIAL SECRETARY.

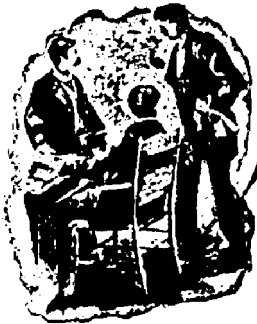
Mr. Thompson with much difficulty obtained some of the plates from which the Antigua and Dominican stamps were printed. They are very effectually cancelled by means of diagonal crosses splitting each stamp into four; but in spite of this Mr. Thompson binds himself, under a heavy penalty, not to take an impression from the plates.

But on this subject of plates I shall say no more just now, as the subject will be exhaustively dealt with in an article now in preparation for the FORTNIGHTLY.

Reverting to Leewards, Mr. Thompson exhibited the gems of his stock. In the most unguarded way he placed books containing hundreds of pounds' worth of unused Dominicans, Antiguans, &c., well within my reach. With difficulty I kept my fountain pen at its normal work.

Presently Mr. Thompson made certain mystic passes and with a quick jerk of his thumb indicated a table on which bottles and glasses were invitingly arranged. I understood him to mention whiskey and Johannis. It wasn't philately, but I drank and I afterwards talked. Mr. Thompson talked too. He is one of the men who can talk interestingly. I lure him away from Leewards—not a very difficult matter; for I feel sure that they are beginning to bore him—and then get him to talk of Bishop Auckland and its strange legends. The weird fable of how the Sword of Sedbergh, with which the valiant Pollard of Pollardsland slew the boar, came to be used as an office poker, is rich, very rich—as he tells it.

As I rose to go I slid my fountain pen into its proper receptacle, shook Thompson's arm nearly off by way of concealing my mixture of emotions, and then boarded a yellow 'bus outside. Ere I was half way back to 64, Cheapside, I decided that I had acted rightly. One does not assassinate and rob a man with whom one has broken br—, I mean, whiskey. Its bad form, and its un-English. P.C.B.



OUR FORUM

** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought

that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

A WARNING.

DEAR SIR,—Through the medium of your widely circulated Journal, I desire to warn philatelists universally against purchasing at high prices the stamps lately being advertised as "unused Victoria, 4d. Emblems, no watermark." These I believe to be identical with a number of sheets that have been unearthed here, and which have been proved to be merely "proof sheets" or "trial printings," and are consequently only of value as curiosities. There are several of these sheets in the possession of Melbourne dealers and collectors, some with single and others with double impressions on back which were shown at the exhibition held by the Philatelic Society of Victoria in September, 1894.

Trusting my information will have the desired effect of placing these stamps (?) in their true light.

Yours truly,

J. DAVIES.

Melbourne, August 19th, 1895.

HILCKES' ENQUIRY BUREAU.

GENTLEMEN,—Very many thanks for information sent, which is excellent. Your Bureau seems a capital and well arranged affair and *most useful*.

Yours faithfully,

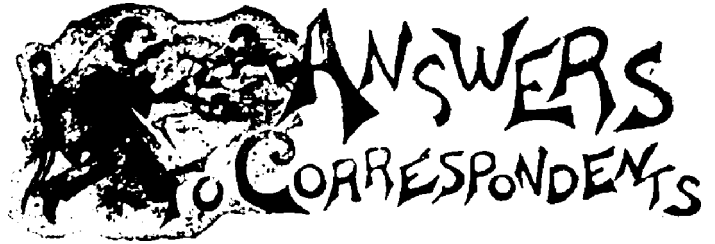
E.F.B.

Bristol, October 25th, 1895.

Our Enquiry Bureau

[S the first and therefore the only reliable means of separating philatelic rogues from perfect specimens.

Covers for Binding Vol. I. of "S.C.F." are again in stock, and can be supplied at 1/3, post free, including index.



** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

J.G.A. (Pontefract).—You are not the only one who has anxiously enquired about the Club Secretary in Cardiff, and all the remedy we can advise is to issue a summons in the County Court against the party. No doubt a solicitor's letter would be of no use whatever. We should also advise you to mention the matter to Mr. Wickhart, the Secretary of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society, whose advertisement you will find on back page of "S.C.F." Thanks for renewal.

M.C. (London, W.).—The stamps you mention with black arms in centre, imperf., and inscription, "Commission fuer retour briefe Bamberg" is merely a label used by the Dead Letter Office Section, Bamberg, returning an undelivered letter to sender. About a dozen different sections exist in Bavaria alone. A very similar stamp is used by the Dead Letter Department of Wurtemberg, in which the design is slightly altered. They are of absolutely no value, and were it not for unscrupulous English dealers who continually include them in their cheap variety packets, they would not find their way into collections. Your other question refers to a local stamp in Chemnitz, and you know our opinion about local stamps; it is not very flattering.

G.H.R. (Wragby).—Your suggestions *re* space in Auction Supplement will be acted upon if possible, but we are afraid we cannot give much. We may, however, feel disposed to inter-leave the book right through. It is *quite* impossible, however, to be much quicker with our report. Some weeks' auctions follow each other with a surprising rapidity, and in other weeks hardly anything worthy of reporting is sold. We cannot very well leave out important stamps, and unless we increase the size of the supplement, we cannot always keep quite up to date. However, we always do our best to get up to date. It is extremely gratifying to receive such letters as yours. It shows that, although the trade is doing its level best to damage the "S.C.F.," we have a stock of readers at our back who thoroughly approve of the policy of the journal.

Dr. V. (Jamaica).—You write: "There are some stamps of Jamaica (B.W.I.) which are not included in any of the catalogues published by the large dealers, and which a good many collectors are not aware of. For instance:—

14d., blue fiscal used postally *unperforated*.

3d., lilac fiscal used postally (on slate colored paper) *unperforated*.

10/- green fiscal used postally perforated 14.

It may also be interesting to your readers and some other collectors to know that before the introduction of half-penny stamps, the 1d. blue was authorized to be cut in halves and used for half-penny postage. There are two descriptions of them, one cut diagonally and the other vertically. The 2d. rose was also cut in four parts and used in the same way, but there are only about six known specimens of these. I believe several errors in our Jamaica stamps, such as inverted watermarks, &c., are unknown to a good many collectors. I have recently come across an inverted watermark of the 2d. rose, pine apple. I shall always be glad to afford any of your readers all the information on the subject."—(Many thanks for the above.—Ebs.)

Our Review of Reviews.

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

Our J.P. on the N.S.W. Official Swindle.

IF Postmaster General, Mr. Joe Cook, of Sydney, New South Wales, could be had up before our own Philatelic "beak," what general Philatelic rejoicing there would be. The question of "guilty, or not guilty," would be at once narrowed down to one as to the most suitable and adequate method of torture, and probably we should have to revert to some of the racks or thumb screws of the very effective methods of the Inquisition; or, possibly, as the "cat" is now coming much into vogue at the Old Bailey, we might do a little surcharging in that manner. This latter method would doubtless lead to the issue of many new, but except by the aid of the phonograph, uncollectable forms of the "O.S." surcharge. Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., delivering judgment on the matter, after judiciously turning all the evidence and affidavits thereunto relating into many pages of useful "copy," sayeth in the *London Philatelist* as follows:—

Words almost fail to convey our estimation of the scandalous proceedings of the New South Wales Postal Authorities, as set forth in our pages this month.

A voice from the back: "Good old 'copy.'"

Usher: "Silence! in court!"

J.P. proceeding: "It was thought that the lowest depths of paltry official speculation in postal issues had been touched by Chafso or Portugal, but it was apparently reserved for one of our leading Colonies to immerse itself still more deeply in the mire of dishonesty (sensation in court, Prisoners sobbing violently). The issue of the New South Wales Stamps surcharged O.S. for Official Service having been terminated at the beginning of this year, it was thought desirable—assuredly by no one but the Sydney officials—to issue sets of reprints of the superseded series, duly surcharged either 'Reprint' or 'Specimen.' The next proceeding was to sell these sets without the surcharge, and finally to postmark them, in order to remove any suspicion from the collector's mind. There can be no hesitation in plainly denouncing this latter act as a barefaced swindle—as paltry as it is dishonest. It seems unendurable that any Government, worthy of the name, should lend itself to an act that, perpetrated by an individual, would lead to an acquaintance with the wards of a gaol. It is practically certain that the Sydney Postmaster-General knew that these official forgeries would be passed on to innocent collectors, who would thus be inveigled into purchasing worthless rubbish; hence that gentleman and his advisers are therefore plainly accessories before the fact to obtaining money on false pretences. There should be two important results from this scandal. Firstly, the Postmaster-General of New South Wales should be dismissed from his post. Secondly, the purchase of any of these 'forgeries' (more sensation) should be made practically impossible by tabooing them all over the world."

Sentence: Three months, or forty strokes with the "cat," or half-a-dozen attendances at the Reference List Meetings of the L.P.S., at the option of the prisoners.

English Hand-stamps.

Some attention is being called just now to the hand-stamps that are stamped, postmark fashion, on wrappers to indicate postage paid on circulars posted in large quantities. A writer of "Notes on English Stamps," under the initials of "M.E.N." in the *Philatelic Chronicle* makes the following reference to the matter:—

If books or circulars are taken to a head office, they may be prepaid in a lump sum under certain conditions, and the authorities then impress a circular stamp containing the word PAID, and this carries the circular or pamphlet to its destination. Surely these are as much postage stamps as the more elaborate articles embossed upon the stationery one buys at the post-office counter. For the benefit of any one interested in the hand-stamps used in the United Kingdom during the years 1840-1852, I would recommend Mr. W. T. Wilson's admirable article in the *Philatelic Chronicle* of November, 1894.

The Belgium 5fr. Stamp.

M. Jules Bouv ez contributes to the October number of the *American Journal of Philately*, (New York, a very interesting

article on the reasons for the issue of the 5fr. stamp of Belgium, about which we have heard so much of late, and the purposes for which the stamp was used, viz: "the prepayment of insured letters with declared values, and draughts deposited with the Post Office for collection, the tax on which has always been represented by postage stamps on the drafts themselves." After giving much valuable information as to the sale and numbers used, the writer says:—

The first issue of 5 fr. stamps was composed of 100 sheets of 300 stamps each, which were placed on sale in the post offices of the first four classes. In 1884, 60 additional sheets of 18,000 stamps, which were divided in the same way. The second lot of stamps, of a paler shade than the first, which were of brownish red, were catalogued separately by certain collectors. The pale red stamp was, moreover more highly esteemed and a greater value was attributed to it. Thus at time of the suppression of this stamp, the catalogue of Mr. Belin, Brussels, classed it as follows:—

No. 55	5fr. pale red,	unused 20 fr.	used, 12 fr.
56	5fr. brown red,	unused 10 fr.	used, 10 fr.
57	(Nos. 55 and 56 cancelled with roulette)		6 fr.

If the stamps of 5 fr. which were used for the prepayment of insured letters cannot be found to-day, this is not the case with those attached to business drafts, &c., received for collection by the post offices. From their very nature, these have been carefully preserved by those on whom they were drawn; consequently, they present to collectors an immense field in which to glean, taking as a basis the information herein given. This search, I may say, has already given pretty good results. I will, particularly, quote a circumstance which seems to bear out the statistical information furnished. A lover of philately, having collected a bundle of 427 business drafts, paid through the post office in 1881 by an important industrial concern in Belgium, found on six of them, of a value of from 9000 to 14,000 fr., eight 5 fr., brown-red stamps cancelled with the date stamp of the Brussels post office. The examination of a bundle of 369 drafts, paid in 1882 by the same concern, led to the discovery of five more 5 fr. stamps of the same shade, also cancelled, one at Antwerp and four in Brussels. He was not so fortunate on examining a bundle of 385 drafts paid in 1886, for only one draft of more than 18,000 fr. was found, the tax on which had been represented by a 5 fr. pale red stamp, two 2 fr. violet stamps, and other stamps of less value. These data show that a respectable number of cancelled 5 fr. Belgian stamps can be obtained, especially as we find from the statistics that from 1878 to 1887 more than 15,000 stamps were used in Belgium for the tax on drafts. Let Belgium philatelists then go to work with courage, and they will not be long in bringing down the price of this stamp, which has hitherto been justly considered as a *rara avis*.

U.S. for Specialising.

Mr. Crawford Capen, who has recently done so much to popularise the beautifully-engraved issues of the United States, is never tired of advising would-be specialists how to make the most of their opportunities. In the last number of the *Post Office*, which he so ably edits, he says:—

The best thing about this study of United States Stamps is the opportunity which it offers to those whose means are not large to secure what is valuable and interesting at a very moderate cost. The prices have not become settled and adjusted by the various prints of United States Stamps. The prices of clear prints of all values will change immensely in a few years. We are in the same situation regarding these varieties that the author was twenty years ago when he had before him some piles of letters containing all and especially high values of the stamps of 1861-75 on the envelopes. He pulled off a few, all that dealers would buy then. He let the others go to the ragman, probably 100,000 stamps that would bring now \$10,000 at the least. Let anyone who desires a speciality make a study and collect varieties of print of United States Stamps that are selling now at prices ranging from a few cents to a dollar, and in twenty years he will have a collection for which he can get his own figure.

Seebecks and the S.S.S.S.

Some good people would have the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps condemn everything, right and left, in a wholesale manner, utterly regardless of its

chances of giving any practical effect to its condemnation. As witness the following from *Filatelic Facts and Fallacies*, (U.S.A.):—

We agree with many of our contemporaries that it is about time that the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps gave its attention to Seebecks. We would like to have some kind of an expression from them. We believe the influence it would exert, no matter how qualified such an expression might be, would be beneficial to philately in general, and maintain unshaken the confidence which the philatelic public is now inclined to give to that organization.

It is not such an easy matter to deal with Seebecks as the editor of *F.F. & F.*, seems to imagine. Seebecks are as much legitimate postage stamps as any that we include in our albums, and that indisputable fact is the difficulty in the way of condemning them. The evil in the business is not in the original issue, but in the subsequent trade in remainders. The remedy will come bye and bye in all respectable dealers refusing to deal in such waste rubbish. Personally, I would like to see the whole lot, from the issue of the first Seebeck, to the latest picture, blotted out of all philatelic records; but I cannot see how it is to be done. If collectors and dealers will have a little patience they will find that the S.S.S.S., will clear the weeds from the philatelic garden in good time. It is better to be over cautious than to forfeit confidence by rash policy.

£1026 for a Pair.

Mr. Mekeel is entitled to crow a bit over the record price that he has got for a pair of 20 cent St. Louis stamps. But let him tell his own story as given to the readers of his *Weekly Stamp News*:—

The very valuable discovery of St. Louis stamps in Louisville, Kentucky, brought to light two stamps that eclipse the Mauritius, not only from the point of scarcity, but the price paid for them. The price paid our publishers for these two stamps, two 20 cent St. Louis, dies C and B was \$5,000.00, or an amount in English money of little over £1026. The exact number of stamps of the 20c. denomination that were found in Louisville, Kentucky, was sixteen, and when the fact is taken into consideration that there were two dies, and furthermore that two kinds of paper were used, the number of duplicates were very few; before these sixteen were found, only two or three stamps of this denomination were known. As a matter of comparison between the 20c. St. Louis stamps and the Mauritius, there is a larger number of the latter known to exist than of the former, thus bearing us out in our statement as regards the rarity and value of the two St. Louis stamps illustrated. As a matter of further interest, it may be stated that there were two buyers for each St. Louis 20 cent stamp. This illustrates the ready demand for extreme rarities.

The "Amiable Crank" and the S.S.S.S.

Most sensible collectors will say "hear, hear," to the following protest from the pen of Major Evans, in the *Monthly Journal*, against the assumption on the part of certain philatelic curiosities, that all "provisionals" are necessarily the result of wicked designs upon the philatelist's pocket:—

When we permit our zeal to outrun our discretion, and to lead us to lecture Colonial and Foreign Postmasters, and others, upon the subject of the stocks of stamps that they ought to keep, and upon the number and nature of the provisionals that they are, or are not, to issue in cases of emergency, we simply invite the ridicule which is but too often the portion of the "amiable crank" in all his various developments. We must try to remember—it is a difficult task, but we ought to try to do it—that Post-offices and Postage Stamps do not exist solely, or even primarily, for the sake of us collectors, and that Postmasters have no direct duties to perform towards us. That Stamp-Collecting has been the means of adding largely to the revenues of the Post-offices of some of the smaller States and Colonies there can be no doubt; but it is equally certain that it has also added immensely, in some cases, to the difficulties of Postmasters. It is their duty of course to arrange that, under all ordinary and probable circumstances, there shall be sufficient supplies on hand of all the values of their stamps; but accidents will happen even in the best regulated offices, and then the trouble begins. There is an unexpected demand—say for 3d. stamps, and a few weeks, or a few days, perhaps, before the new supply can arrive, the stock runs short. A few thousands, or even a few hundreds, might be amply sufficient to tide over the difficulty, and there may be a small stock of some obsolete type, or some little required value, that it would be convenient to get

rid of, and thus strike an item off the Treasurer's accounts. But the Postmaster had forgotten about the Local Philatelists, Specialists, Speculators, or whatever we are to call them, or perhaps he did not deem it part of his duty to take their existence into consideration, and the consequence is that the stamps, which for ordinary postal purposes would have lasted some weeks, are all bought up in half-an-hour, and in the course of the afternoon they are being fought for in the street at twenty or thirty times their face value.

Major Evans would very rightly reserve our indignation for cases of official jobbery such as the picking over of provisionals before they are offered for sale to the public, the hawking of curiosities never issued to the public, at all, &c., instead of "letting fly indiscriminately at every issue that appears."

Another view of S.S.S.S. work.

The *Southern Philatelist* (U.S.A.) presents us with its own particular editorial view of the final result of the work of the S.S.S.S. It says:—

The Society for the suppression of speculative stamps continue to boycott, and there is no telling where the fun will end. We think however, the evil will continue until all doubtful stamps are omitted from dealers' catalogues and price lists and that will never be, as some collectors will want just such stamps, and a stamp dealer has to please his customers or go out of business.

Editor Luhu will probably have his faith shaken in this particular editorial opinion of his in the next issues of such standard catalogues as Scott and Stanley Gibbons. We do not expect to eradicate all doubtful stamps in a day or a year, but substantial progress is being made despite the croakers.

Another chatterer, in another journal, I forget which, remarks that the London Philatelic Society did a big thing in starting the ball, but a bad thing in handing it over to a party of dealers. This sort of thing would be very amusing if it were not calculated to mislead other ignoramuses. As a matter of fact the London Society has done nothing of the sort, for it has appointed a standing committee of its own to confer regularly with the Committee of the S.S.S.S., which latter Society, by the way, is made up of both collectors and dealers. The two committees have worked together since the issue of the first circular, as is attested by the fact that all the circulars are now signed by the Secretaries of both Societies.

The Indian 1 anna fiscal-postal.

The *Philatelic World* (Calcutta) has the following information anent a note in the *London Philatelist*, that the current 1 anna Indian receipt stamp had "undoubtedly paid postage":—

The Indian P.O. will postmark an unused fiscal stamp if affixed to an envelope and posted to any address; but will charge double postage unless the envelope also bears an ordinary postage stamp of sufficient value to carry the matter posted. The stamps in question may, of course, have, by some accident, escaped the vigilance of the cancelling baboo, though this is unlikely. Unless the entire envelope was seen by the editor, it is quite possible for postmarked fiscals to have been produced to him cut from a cover bearing the interesting legend, "2 annas to pay," or words to that effect.

The Apotheosis of the Gumbug.

A clever contributor who veils his identity under the *nom-de-plume* of "DAK" contributes some amusing lines, *a-la Kipling*, to the September No. of the *Philatelic World* (Calcutta), under the title of "The apotheosis of the Gumbug: A tale of ten years hence." The following extract will serve as a sample:—

You know they d—d the gumbug with a d—,
 And every good collector purged his book,
 And all the bad material at hand
 Was used to fill exchange sheets—which meant price,
 And therefore profit. Thus the Gumbug burst,
 And several thousand gross of him
 Went down into perditions valley, *flap*,
 And broke a lot of little dealer men,
 And filled a lakh or so of magazines
 With periodic twaddle. So he passed,
 Slain by the clamour of the four S'd league,
 To philatelic limbo, and we said
 We'd never liked him, and it served him right,
 And moralised about him for a bit
 And then forgot him—which was natural.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

Class a—Superb condition, if unused with gum, (mint state), if used, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post-marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked *

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON**, October 1st & 2nd, 1895.

(Continued from page 26).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Tasmania, 1d. blue .. ..	..	1	17 0
3b	ditto, vertical strip of 4, 1 mended .. ..	..	6	0 0
b	Trinidad, blue on bluish * .. ..	..	1	6 0
b	1/- blue-black, pin perf. * .. ..	..	2	6 0
b	Tuscany, 1 soldo yellow on white * .. ..	..	6	5 0
a	United States (1855), 30c. orange .. ..	..	0	16 0
b	ditto, 90c. blue * .. ..	..	4	4 0
b	another, used .. ..	..	3	17 0
a	(1861), 5c. mustard, 2 copies	each	1	4 6
a	(1868), 90c., with grill .. ..	..	1	2 0
b	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, perf. 12 * .. ..	..	1	0 0
b	1 - coloured border * .. ..	..	1	3 0
a	Western Australia, 2d. brown-red .. ..	..	3	0 0
b	Wurtemberg, first issue, 3k. yellow * .. ..	..	1	12 0
b	ditto, 6k. green .. ..	..	5	10 0
b	ditto, 9k. pink * .. ..	..	20	0 0
b	ditto, 18k. violet * .. ..	..	1	10 0
b	third issue, 18k. blue, no thread .. ..	..	1	5 0

Messrs. **VENTOM, BULL & COOPER**, October 9th & 10th, 1895.

a	Belgium, 5fr. red-brown * .. ..	..	1	5 0
b	Bolivar, first issue, 10c. green .. ..	..	5	0 0
b	Bolivia (1868), 500c. black * .. ..	..	1	10 0
b	(1871), ditto * .. ..	..	3	5 0
b	British Guiana (1851), 1c. magenta .. ..	..	3	15 0
b	(1862), 1c., crossed ovals, roulettes 3 sides .. ..	..	4	15 0
b	ditto, 4c., hearts and pearls .. ..	..	5	5 0
a	British Honduras, 50c., small, on 1/- grey * .. ..	..	2	17 6
a	Ceylon, 10d. orange, imperf. * .. ..	..	1	15 0
a	another, used .. ..	..	1	4 0
b	5d. brown, no wmk, .. ..	..	1	7 0
a	9d. brown, ditto .. ..	..	1	6 0
a	Colombia (1862), 20c. red, postmarked .. ..	..	5	5 0
a	Confederate States, Petersburg, 5c. red .. ..	..	1	0 0
a	Congo, first issue, 5fr. violet .. ..	..	1	0 0
b	Fernando Poo, 20c. brown .. ..	..	1	7 0
b	French Colonies (1875), 2c. red-brown .. ..	..	1	2 0
b	ditto, 4c. grey .. ..	..	1	3 0
b	(1879), 25c. black and red * .. ..	..	2	2 0
b	Grenada, 6d. rose, no wmk. * .. ..	..	1	8 0
b	Hong Kong, 10 dollars rose .. ..	..	2	2 0
b	12c. on ditto .. ..	..	1	2 0
a	Japan, 1sen. brown, twigs crossed .. ..	..	1	1 0
a	Lagos (1885), 2/6 brown, with top margin * .. ..	..	4	12 6
a	ditto, 5 - blue, ditto * .. ..	..	6	7 6
a	Levant, 6kop. blue * .. ..	..	1	6 0
b	Lubeck, 1/2sch. lilac, wmk. * .. ..	..	1	6 0
b	Mexico (eagle), 3c. brown, cut close * .. ..	..	3	0 0
a	(Gothic surcharge), 8r. green on brown, 2 copies, each .. ..	..	1	8 0
b	(1868), 100c. brown on brown, imperf. .. ..	..	1	6 0
b	Modena, 9c., large B.G. .. ..	..	1	2 0
a	Monaco, 5fr., first issue * .. ..	..	1	14 0
b	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA. .. ..	..	2	4 0
a	Naples, 1/2t. blue, arms, on piece .. ..	..	16	5 0
b	1/2t., blue, cross, small margins .. ..	..	3	17 6
a	Nevis, 4d. rose, perf. 13 * .. ..	..	3	0 0
a	4d. yellow, litho * .. ..	..	10	0 0
a	4d. blue, CA. * .. ..	..	1	15 0
a	6d. grey, perf. 13 .. ..	..	1	10 0
a	6d. olive-grey, litho * .. ..	..	12	10 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Nevis, 6d. green, CA. .. ..	..	10	0 0
a	1/- green, perf. 13 .. ..	..	1	8 0
a	1/- blue-green, perf. 15 .. ..	..	1	7 0
a	1/- yellow-green, ditto * .. ..	..	16	10 0
a	1/- green, litho * .. ..	..	1	4 0
a	1/- violet, CA. * .. ..	..	2	2 0
a	Newfoundland, 4d. orange-vermilion .. ..	..	2	6 0
b	4d. carmine-vermilion .. ..	..	6	0 0
a	6d. orange-vermilion .. ..	..	1	10 0
b	6 1/2d. carmine-vermilion, fine, but no gum * .. ..	..	13	0 0
a	8d. ditto, strip of 3 * .. ..	..	3	0 0
a	1/- ditto on piece .. ..	..	21	0 0
a	1/- orange-vermilion .. ..	..	28	0 0
a	Nova Scotia, 8 1/2c. * .. ..	..	1	2 0
b	Philippines, first issue, 5c. orange .. ..	..	3	5 0
a	ditto, 10c. pale red .. ..	..	1	18 0
b	5c. litho .. ..	..	2	0 0
a	St. Christopher, 1/- lilac * .. ..	..	1	18 0
a	St. Lucia, 6d. green, star * .. ..	..	3	10 0
a	(1885), 6d. lilac * .. ..	..	2	12 6
a	1/- black and orange * .. ..	..	4	12 6
a	(1885), 1 - red-brown * .. ..	..	7	0 0
a	St. Vincent, 3d. red on half 6d. yellow-green, pair * .. ..	..	2	5 0
a	1d. red on half 6d. blue-green, pair * .. ..	..	10	10 0
a	1d. black on 6d. yellow-green, 2 copies	each	1	18 0
a	4d. yellow * .. ..	..	3	10 0
a	another, used .. ..	..	1	14 0
b	4d. ultramarine * .. ..	..	2	15 0
b	4d. black on 1/- bright vermilion .. ..	..	11	5 0
a	6d. bright green, CA. *	£1 16s. od. and	1	18 0
a	1 - brown * .. ..	..	6	6 0
a	1/- indigo * .. ..	..	5	5 0
a	1/- slate-grey, comp. perf. * .. ..	..	3	10 0
a	5 - rose red, star * .. ..	..	17	0 0
b	Spain (1851), 2r. red, good margins * .. ..	..	28	0 0
b	(1852), 2r. red, ditto * .. ..	..	22	0 0
b	(1853), 2r. red, small margins * .. ..	..	8	0 0
b	Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze .. ..	..	2	2 0
c	ditto, 3 cuartos bronze, slightly cut at top, fine margins otherwise .. ..	..	11	10 0
b	Switzerland, Basle, 24r., good margins .. ..	..	4	15 0
b	another, no margins .. ..	..	2	15 0
a & b	Geneva, the double stamp, severed and rejoined .. ..	..	9	0 0
a	5c. yellow-green, on piece .. ..	..	1	10 0
b	Neufchatel, 5c. .. ..	..	1	10 0
a	Vaud, 5c. .. ..	..	1	18 0
b	Tuscany, 3 lire yellow, no margins .. ..	..	26	10 0
b	United States (1856), 90c. blue, part gum * .. ..	..	3	17 6
b	(1860), reprint, 15c. .. ..	..	1	18 0
c	ditto, ditto, 24c. * .. ..	..	1	18 0
a	ditto, ditto, 90c. * .. ..	..	3	17 6
b	Executive, 10c. * .. ..	..	1	12 0
b	Virgin Islands, 1d. green, CC. .. ..	..	2	4 0
a	1 - single line * .. ..	..	4	0 0

Mr. **W. HADLOW'S** Sale, October 14, 1895.

b	Antigua, 2 1/2d. red-brown, CC. .. ..	..	1	6 0
b	6d. green, no wmk. * .. ..	..	1	1 0
a	Barbados, red on blue, pair * .. ..	..	1	14 0
a	British Honduras, 2c. small on 6d., perf. 14, pair * .. ..	..	1	8 0
a	3c. small on 3d. * .. ..	..	1	10 0
b	Canada, 10d. blue .. ..	..	1	10 0
a	Great Britain, 2/- red-brown .. ..	..	2	0 0
a	5 - carmine. "I.R. Official" .. ..	..	1	10 0
a	10/- blue, ditto .. ..	..	2	2 0
a	£1 green, ditto .. ..	..	3	3 0
b	Nevis, 2 1/2d. red-brown * .. ..	..	1	1 0
b	1/- blue-green, perf. 15 .. ..	..	1	4 0
b	Newfoundland, 6d. orange-vermilion .. ..	..	1	2 0
b	New South Wales, 5d. green, imperf. .. ..	..	2	7 6
b	5/- purple, perf. 13 * .. ..	..	1	8 0
b	New Zealand, 3d. deep purple, star, imperf. .. ..	..	1	8 0
b	Queensland, 1d. deep carmine, imperf. .. ..	..	1	18 0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. dull blue, star .. ..	..	1	1 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.		
		£	s.	d.
b	Switzerland, Winterthur 2½r.	1	10	0
b	Zurich, 6r., vertical lines	1	5	0
a	Tasmania (1864), 2d. green, wmk. 2, perf. 12½ * ..	1	6	0
a	Trinidad, red on white *	1	6	0
b	United States (1856), 90c. blue *	2	15	0
a	(1868), 90c. blue, grill	1	6	0
c	Victoria, 6d. orange, beaded oval, perf. slightly defective but fine	3	12	6
b	Virgin Island, 1/-, coloured border *	1	4	0
b	Western Australia, first issue, 4d. blue, roulette ..	1	18	0
<i>Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, 15th & 16th October, 1895.</i>				
a	Antigua, 1/- mauve	1	1	0
a	Antioquia, first issue, 5c. green	11	5	0
b	Azores, 5r. imperf., black surcharge	3	17	6
a	Barbados, 1d. blue on white, imperf. pair *	2	15	0
a	Bremen, 10gr. black, percé	1	2	0
a	British Columbia, 25c. yellow, perf. 12½, strip of 3 * ..	4	4	0
a	ditto, 2 singles *	£1	8s.	od. and
b	British Guiana (1853), 1c. red	1	10	0
a	(1860), 1c. red-brown	1	1	0
b	Buenos Ayres (1856), 1 peso light brown	1	12	0
a	ditto, 3 pesos green	4	6	0
b	Canada, 6d. grey *	5	5	0
b	10d. blue *	4	0	0
b	Cape of Good Hope, 4d. light blue, wood block ..	2	10	0
a	Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf., fine	20	0	0
b	8c. orange, 12½ x 14 *	1	1	0
b	Colombia (1863), 50c. red (error)	15	10	0
b	Dominican Republic (1862), 1r. green, penmark ..	6	6	0
b	France, 1fr. orange	5	5	0
b	Hanover, 3½t. rose, network *	1	2	0
a	Madeira, 150r. yellow	1	12	0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. on white, medium, cut close	9	5	0
a	ditto, ditto, early, and 2d. medium, together on large piece	37	10	0
a	ditto, 2d. on white, early, on piece	16	0	0
a	ditto, 2d. on bluish, medium, on piece	9	5	0
a	ditto, ditto, late, on piece	6	5	0
a	ditto, ditto, very worn, on piece	1	15	0
a	Greek border, 2d. blue	2	0	0
a	Monaco, first issue, 5fr. *	1	6	0
a	Naples, 50gr. lake	2	12	0
a	Natal, 4d. brown, perf. 12½ *	1	16	0
a	Nevis, 4d. orange, litho	£1	and	1 2 0
b	6d. grey, ditto fine, but no gum *	11	0	0
b	1/- green, ditto, complete sheet, no gum or margin * ..	35	0	0
b	1/- blue-green, perf. 15	1	17	0
a	1/- violet *	2	5	0
b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	2	6	0
b	1/- mauve, creased *	13	10	0
a	Newfoundland, 6d. orange-vermilion	2	2	0
b	5c. brown, seal *	£1	4s.	od. and
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1	2	2	0
a	ditto, 2d., butterfly postmark	2	8	0
a	Laureated, 3d. green, wmk. *	1	6	0
a	ditto, 8d. orange, small margins	3	7	6
a	5d. green, imperf.	2	10	0
b	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue *	2	2	0
b	2d. blue, star, on bleuté *	1	10	0
a	6d. brown, N.Z., imperf.	1	7	0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. brown, 2 copies each	1	1	0
a	6d. dark green, no margins	1	10	0
a	8½c. on white	1	6	0
a	8½c. on yellowish *	1	4	0
a	Odenburg, second issue, 2gr. rose	1	7	0
c	ditto, 3gr. green, fine, but thinned	6	10	0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. grey-brown *	2	12	0
a	St. Helena, 1/- green, long line, perf. 12½ x 14 * ..	1	16	0
b	St. Vincent, 1/- slate, no wmk., perf. 11½ x 14½ ..	1	10	0
a	South Australia, 2d. pale vermilion, pair *	1	5	0
a	3d. red and blue	1	4	0
a	Spain (1851), 6r. blue	1	10	0
b	(1854), 5r. green *	1	12	0
b	(1860), 19c. brown *	1	1	0
a	Switzerland, Vaud, 5c.	1	10	0
b	Tasmania, 1d. pale blue	2	7	0
a	Trinidad, red on white *	3	5	0
a	Litho, grey-blue, on entire	2	4	0
a	4d. grey-lilac, imperf. *	1	14	0
a	United States (1860), 90c.	2	8	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.		
		£	s.	d.
b	United States, no grill, 24c. fine, but no gum * ..	2	10	0
b	ditto, ditto, 90c. ditto *	5	0	0
a	Victoria, 2d. grey-lilac, fine background	3	12	6
a	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, perf. 12	1	18	0
b	Western Australia, first issue, 6d. grey-green ..	1	12	0
b	ditto, 1/- brown *	1	0	0
b	Wurtemberg, 18k. blue, no thread.. ..	1	2	0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., October 17, 1895.

a	Barbados, blue on blue, pair *	1	5	0
a	British Honduras, 50c., small, on 1/- grey * ..	2	6	0
b	Cape of Good Hope, 4d., wood block	1	10	0
a	Ceylon, 1/- cold violet, no wmk.	1	0	0
b	France, 1fr. orange	3	7	6
a	Gambia, 1/- green	1	16	0
a	Gibraltar, first issue, complete *	3	0	0
a	Hanover, 10gr. green *	3	7	6
c	Mauritius, large fillet, 2d. blue, early, but slight mend	12	10	0
a	Nevis, 4d. orange, perf. 15	1	0	0
a	6d. red-brown, CA., block of 4 *	2	6	0
a	1/- mauve *	2	14	0
b	Newfoundland, 6d. orange-vermilion	1	16	0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. brown *	2	4	0
b	6d. green *	3	6	0
a	8½c. on yellow, perf. 12 by 11½, pair *	2	15	0
b	8½c. on white, perf. 11½ *	1	5	0
a	another, used	1	4	0
a	Queensland, 1d., imperf.	2	2	0
a	St. Christopher, 1/- lilac, CA., strip of 5, with control number *	6	15	0
a	St. Lucia, 4d. deep blue, star *	3	7	6
a	St. Vincent, 6d. yellow-green, CA., perf. 12 * ..	2	6	0
a	Saxony, 3pf. red	6	10	0
a	South Australia, 1/- brown, perf. by roulette * ..	8	0	0
a	Switzerland, Zurich, 4r. horizontal, on entire	20	0	0
a & c	Tasmania, 1d. red on pelure, pair	2	10	0
a	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CA. *	14	10	0
a	Trinidad, blue on blue, pair *	1	5	0
a	Purple on blue, pair *	1	8	0
a	Neutral on blue, pair *	1	8	0
b	Tuscany, 2 soldi red	5	5	0
a	1q. black on bluish, pair *	9	0	0
a	9c. deep violet on bluish *	3	15	0
b	80c. pale red *	2	12	0
a	United States (1869), 90c.	2	4	0
b	Virgin Islands, ½d. orange	1	1	0
a	6d. violet, block of 4 *	1	12	0
a	1/- brown, block of 6 *	3	3	0
a	1/- scarlet border *	1	7	0
b	1/- single line *	4	15	0
a	Wurtemberg, 6kr. green, thread, vert. pair * ..	5	5	0
b	70k. lilac, line but heavy postmark	3	0	0

The London Philatelic Company's Sale, Oct. 21, 1895.

b	Alsace, 5c. green, inverted net	1	5	0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose	1	15	0
b	Belgium, 10c. brown, L.L. in frame *	1	18	0
b	Bremen, 3gr. black on blue, percé	£1	9s.	od. & 2, each
a	Canada, 7½d. green	1	16	0
a	10d. blue	1	16	0
a	Ceylon, 9d. brown, imperf.	4	15	0
a	Dominica, 1/- lilac, CA. *	5	0	0
a	French Colonies, 2c. red-brown	0	19	0
a	4c. grey	1	7	0

(To be continued.)

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.—Pages of Two Columns.			
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Whole Page	5	0	Whole Page per ins.
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Quarter Column	0	10	Quarter Column do.
One Inch	0	5	One Inch do.

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Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,

Literary, Fine Art and Philatelic Auctioneers,

47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,

WILL HOLD THEIR

NEXT * SALE * OF

RARE STAMPS

On Monday and Tuesday, November 4th and 5th, 1895.

Amongst other fine Stamps will be included—

Canada, 6d., 7½d. and 10d. imperf. and ½d. perf. Ceylon, 1/9 unused and 9d., no watermark, &c. Cape Woodblock, 4d. very fine. France, 1 franc orange. Great Britain, 10/- and £1 cross, £5 on white and on blue, and 10/- I.R. official. New South Wales Sidney Views including some fine pairs, and 8d. orange imperf., Registered Stamps and others. Victoria, 6d. orange, beaded oval. United States, 1869, 90 cents, and Columbus complete, Newspaper Stamps complete set. Naples, ½ tornese cross. Switzerland, very fine lot of Locals, including 4c. Vaud and double Geneva. Scinde, the rare ½ anna red. Tasmania, 1d. blue. Barbadoes, 5/- and many others.

The following Sale will take place on Monday and Tuesday, 25 and 26 November, 1895,

And will comprise many Rare and Fine Stamps, amongst which will be found:—

BADEN, 1st 2 issues, complete, unused with gum.
 BAHAMAS, 1d. imperf, a fine pair.
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, 10c. imperf. and perf. 12½, 25c. a strip of 3.
 BRITISH GUIANA, 1851, 1 and 4c., the latter on entire. 1853, 1c., a fine pair, 1856, 4c. crimson, a superb copy on entire; 1862, provisionals, 1 and 2 cents and others.
 BRITISH S. AFRICA, Pair of the £5, *postally used*.
 CANADA, Imperf., 6d. and 7½d. used and 10d. unused; perf. 6d. and 3c. brown, on laid paper.
 CAPE, Woodblock, 4d. blue, superb.
 CEYLON, 9d., 10d., and 1/- and 1/9 imperf.
 FRANCE, 1st issue, a strip of 7 of 20c. black, one stamp being tête-bêche, on entire.
 GIBRALTAR, 1st issue, complete, unused.
 GREAT BRITAIN, V.R. 1d. black and fine pair; 1/- oct. a pair, unused with gum; £5, *postally used*.
 HANOVER, 10 gross, very fine.
 MAURITIUS, 1d. and 2d. post paid, very fine, and others.
 NEVIS, a superb lot of the early issues and 6d. green, C.A.
 NEWFOUNDLAND, a fine lot.

NEW SOUTH WALES, Sydney Views, a superb lot, including several pairs, and 5d. and 8d. square imperf., &c.
 NEW ZEALAND, No wmk., 2d. rouletted, superb, and 1/- serrated perf.
 NOVA SCOTIA, 1d., 3d. and 6d., and 8½ cents.
 OLDENBURG, 1st issue, 7½ and 1½th unused, 2d. issue ½ and 3 gros unused, and 3rd issue ½ gr. moss green and others.
 QUEENSLAND, 2d. imperf, &c.
 ST. VINCENT, a very fine lot including 5/- star, 1d. on ½ of 6d. 4d. on 1/- and 4d. dark blue, star, unused.
 SPAIN, 1866, 12c. imperf., with reversed centre.
 SWITZERLAND, Zurich, 4 and 6 rap, Winterthur, 2½r. Neufchatel, 5c., &c.
 TASMANIA, 1d. blue.
 TRINIDAD, Very fine lot of imperf. issues, superb lithographs on entries, &c., &c.
 UNITED STATES, 1855, 90c., 1868, 90c. with grille, 1869 complete, Columbus, complete, &c.
 WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 1st issue complete and others.
 WURTEMBERG, 18kr. blue with thread, unused, and 70kr. very fine.

Collections or Single Specimens of Rare Stamps received.

Liberal Advances, pending realization, if required.

FOR TERMS ADDRESS—

47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.

ESTABLISHED 1794.

*Doings of Societies.***BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.****LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.****SCARBOROUGH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.****STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.****NORTHAMPTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.****LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.****ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.****OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

No reports to hand on going to press.

NOTTINGHAM & DISTRICT SOCIETY.

A MEETING was held at the George Hotel, Nottingham, recently, to inaugurate the formation of a Philatelic Society for Nottingham and district. His Honour Judge Masterman the President of the Society occupied the chair. There were present—Messrs. Stanley, Birkin, G. Burton, T. B. Forman, H. Fothergill, A. Marshall, Nevin, Ed. Peate, P. B. Sansome, E. G. Simpson, J. G. Spendlove, and the hon. secretary (Mr. H. Harold Brown). Most of those present brought some portion of their collections of stamps for exhibition, most noticeable among which were the presidents volume containing British Guiana and West Indians, Mr. E. G. Simpson's English, and the hon. secretary's Australians. It was decided to meet on the first Tuesday in each month until April. The next meeting was fixed for Tuesday, November 5th, when the stamps of Great Britain will be under discussion.

ROCHDALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE opening meeting of the above Society was held yesterday evening, 23rd inst., a fair number of members being present. In the absence of the President, the Hon. Treasurer took the chair, the election of officers for season 94-95 was proceeded with. President: T. W. Etherington, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer: E. Heginbottom, B. A., Assistant Hon. Sec. to be appointed after Christmas.

The Treasurer was able to show a balance sheet, favourable to the Society and several new members were duly elected.

The meetings in future will be held on alternate Thursdays, the next one being affixed for Nov. 14th, when a paper on "Stamp Collecting and its advantages" will be read by the Hon. Secretary. E. Heginbottom B. A., Hon. Sec., Woodfield, Rochdale.

All Philatelists around Rochdale District are cordially invited.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday evening, Oct. 18th, at 7.30 p.m., in the Central Cafe, High-street, G. H. Hunt, Esq., presided, 11 other members being present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. J. Lee Pike's resolution relating to the Election of Officers by ballot, was discussed and passed.

New Members. Mr. C. Risigari, Manheim, proposed by Luis H. Abenheimer, seconded by R. Sneath, Mr. Hawley, High Street, proposed by R. Sneath, seconded by J. Bramah.

After the official business had been transacted, a very fine display of European stamps was given. It having been previously arranged that as far as possible each member should contribute. The result proved eminently satisfactory, many rare stamps being shewn. Messrs. Hunt and Abenheimer, coming especially to the fore with grand specimens of

the German States, and shewing almost complete pages Bavaria, Baden, Oldenburg and Bremen.

Messrs. J. Lee Pike, J. F. Peace, A. J. Elliot, J. H. Chapman, R. Sneath and J. Bramah also contributed towards the success of the display.

A vote of thanks to the contributors terminated a very enjoyable and interesting evening.

The Secretary begs to acknowledge the receipt of the "Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser," the "Stamp Collectors' Journal," and the report of the Birmingham Society. The Librarian, Mr. J. Bramah, 145, Gell Street, will be pleased to receive any periodicals or journals relating to Philately. R. Sneath, Hon. Secretary, 166, Devonshire Street, Sheffield.

WARRINGTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING of Collectors was held on Tuesday, 8th October, when a Society was formed under the above title.

A set of proposed rules was submitted to the meeting, and after careful revision was adopted.

Officers of the Society were appointed, and other formal business transacted.

An exchange packet will be started and it is hoped to form a library of philatelic literature.

After the meeting several members shewed their collections, Mr. Fletcher being especially rich in Tasmanians.

Collectors in and around Warrington who wish to join the Society, should communicate with the Hon. Secretary. Herbert Woods, Hon. Sec. 15, Museum Street.

EDINBURGH & LEITH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

AT a meeting held on Monday, October 28th, 1895, Mr. A. Schnepel, President, in the chair, it was resolved to hold an exhibition of Stamps and Philatelic Accessories on November 16th inst. Many of the leading philatelists in the district have promised loans for the purpose of exhibition; many of the Society's members will be among the exhibitors. A smoking concert will be held in the evening.

The Annual General Business Meeting will be held on November 11th, and officials for ensuing year will be elected.

Tickets for the exhibition will be on sale at Mr. Mackay's, 34, Frederick Street; Mr. Given's, 20, Bristo Street; may also be had from the Secretary, L. Hush, 3, Bristo Place.

The Secretary begs to acknowledge with thanks the Annual Report of the Birmingham Philatelic Society.

PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 2d. for every six words. — Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

EXCHANGE SOCIETY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

THE LARGEST and BEST STAMP EXCHANGE in existence, conducted on RULES of EXCHANGE (PURE and SIMPLE). Subscription, 1/- per annum. Nearly 200 Members. Full particulars, and all information necessary for New Members, will be sent free on application to THE SECRETARY, MR. C. FORBES, Hon. Librarian, City of London Philatelic Club, 42, Strahan Road, London, E. Foreign correspondence desired with Dealers and Collectors. [1]

TO COLLECTORS.—Wanted Rare Stamps to complete Countries.—J. KNASTER, Cambridge. [8]

WANTED.—English Used and Unused, especially the Engraved Series. Good price paid.—BIONOLD, English Stamp Exchange Society, Mill Hill, London, N.W. [1]

BRIGHT'S catalogue, 1/6 postal order, prepaid. If acknowledgment required, kindly enclose post-card.—HOWWOOD, Chichester. [5]

A PRESENT for you. Send for one of our unrivalled sheets.—YORKSHIRE STAMP CO., 82c, Low Street, Keighley. [3]

WANTED.—English Stamps Cheap. Unused preferred.—TERRY, 23, Crystal Palace Road, Dulwich, London, P.S.A., 1016. [1]

U.S. Columbus, 1c-50c, used, 6/- Complete, 102/- Sheets on approval, 50 per cent. discount for cash, or stamps worth 3d. and over taken in payment at half Catalogue price.—GEORGE S. LOVELACE, Muskegon, Mich., U.S.A. [1]

BRITISH COLONIALS, Old European, &c., mostly half price, discount extra. State number in collection and requirement. No dealers. 4,000 varieties. References.—PHILATELIST, 98, Coningham Road, Shepherds Bush. [2]

COLLECTION of 1000 Varieties of splendid Stamps 20/- Sheets of Stamps on approval at half catalogue prices. THOMPSON, 28, Ellison Place, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

AN AMATEUR Collector, who is anxious to add to a collection (numbering 4000), having neglected his collection for some time, is prepared to buy as many stamps as he can obtain at one HALF-PENNY or ONE PENNY each. Dealers and Collectors having such for sale are requested to send sheets. No Indians or Australians required, and only stamps issued previous to January, 1894.—GUY W. HOOG, Consul for Sweden and Norway, &c., Princes Lodge, Island of St. Helena.

17 COLUMBUS United States and a set of five Indian given free to collectors applying for Approval Sheets, enclosing 1d. stamp for postage. References or Deposit required from persons unknown to me.—E. WOOD, 9, Hoxton Street, London, N.

ENGLISH Penny Reds, plate numbers, used in good condition 1/- per 100.—SHELDRAKE, 28, Wymer St., Norwich, Norfolk.

200 DIFFERENT Stamps post free 3/6. Given away with each packet a nice Stamp Album. Letters D. BUCK, 9, Grove Lane, Stamford Hill, London.

BELGIUM.—The new UNPAID LETTER STAMPS (Nov. 1895). Cheap Offer: 5c., 10c., 20c. and 50c., new or used, 1/-; ten sets 9/-; 5c., 10c., 20c., 50c. and 1 fr. (complete set) 2/-; ten sets 18/-; Issue of 1870 (no more in use) 20c., 10c., and 5c., (half 10c. on Briefstück) used 6d., ten sets 5/- Terms: cash with order. Carriage extra. Orders for 5/- and upwards post free. No exchange.—J. VLIETINCK, member of the Dresden, Antwerp and Ostend Philatelic Societies, Brabantstraat, 9, Ostend.

WANTED to buy Portuguese India, obsolete issues, all values. Also Mexican and Turkish Surcharges all issues. Japanese and Old Persians.—DR. BURGHARD, 46, Weymouth Street, London, W. [6]

CUBA.—A splendid set of 40 different types, all unused, covering from 1862 to 1891, many good values. "C," 10, Derby Villas, Forest Hill, S.E.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—A Complete Collection of Deed Stamps, are of the two sets struck for the Colonial Government, in mint condition.—COLONUS, c/o HILKES & Co., 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

WANTED, a Philatelic Magazine for 1892, complete. State price.—HAMILTON, Wymondham, Oakham.

ENGLISH.—Large stock Penny 1864 plate numbers, used. HALF Gibbons' Catalogue prices.—STANLEY BROS., 53, Bloomfield Road, Paddington.

A LONDON correspondent of leading foreign Philatelic Journals is frequently in receipt of consignments for disposal. For particulars, apply to "C," 10, Derby Villas, Forest Hill, London, S.E.

BREAKING up large collection. Stamps sent on Approval State countries desired.—F. W. FRANKLIN, 34, Exchange Buildings, Birmingham. [3]

50 DIFFERENT Unused Stamps, including very rare Urbano (worth 4d.), Constantinople (5 paras) scarce Philippines, rare Norg Coast, 2 rare Saxonia (alone worth 6d.), old Spanish, New Caledonia, Sardinia (old) scarce, Porto Rico (1c. blue), Tahiti, Guinea, rare Turkey (20 paras) very scarce, Zambesia, Argentine (obsolete), Congo, scarce Luxemburg (President's head) 2 Venezuela (catalogued 8d.), Monaco (new), Mayotte Eretria (surcharged), St. Thomas, Costa Rica, Bogota, Senegal ALL UNUSED, 1/14d.—STANLEY BROS., 53, Bloomfield Road, Maida Vale.

250 FOREIGN Stamps all different and cleaned 1/- approval books 25 per cent.—A.R.D., 3, Francis Road, Leyton.

COLLECTOR having quantity of Duplicates to dispose of Cheaply, will send Approval Sheets on application.—S. MARR, Fair View, Millgate Lane, Didsbury, Manchester. [1]

200 GENUINE STAMPS, all different, post free, 1/- Cheap Approval Sheets, or will send on receipt of satisfactory reference, selections of Good Medium Stamps, priced low. Correspondents desired Abroad.—J. LOUIS, 159, Fortess Road, N.W. [3]

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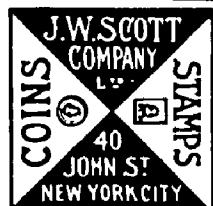
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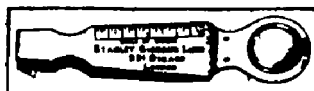
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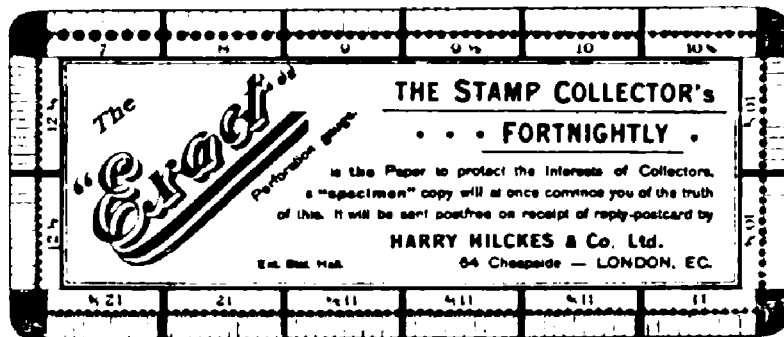
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No. 30.—No. 4.—Vol. II.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	39
Gossip of the Hour	40
Philately at Home	40
Much Ado about a Die	41
Hilckes' Enquiry Bureau Announcements	43
Philately Abroad	43
City of London Philatelic Club	43
Between Ourselves	44
Collectable Varieties	45
Our Forum	46
Our Review of Reviews	47
Auction Supplement	49

in his collection Mr. Paul is said to have refused £300. Which stamp is that, we wonder?

* * *

At last! "We cannot help considering the election of Mr. Kissinger to the Secretaryship of the A.P.A., a serious misfortune to the Association," says the *Boston Stamp Book*. "It is simply a case of self-seeking rustle."

* * *

MESSRS. FISHER, TITLEY & Co., of Sydney Buildings, Bath, may well feel proud of their new descriptive price list of stamps, envelopes, post-cards, and albums, consisting of thirty-two pages and cover. It is a list that appeals to every young and medium collector. From a glance through its pages we should say that the prices quoted are uniformly reasonable.

* * *

MR. E. WELLS, the Secretary of the Croydon Stamp Exchange Club, has amalgamated his business with Messrs. Courtenay, Wells & Co., of the West Croydon Auction Mart, and will conduct stamp auctions for the firm this season, due notice of which will appear in our columns.

* * *

MR. SAUNDERS, the great Toronto collector, whose earlier years were spent in the Bahamas, has just disposed of his collection of 7,000 varieties, a Toronto dealer being the purchaser. Mr. Saunders had accumulated an imposing array of Bahamas stamps, U.S. Periodicals, up to \$60, and other things above the ordinary.

* * *

NOT every English reader will be familiar with the name of Henry Ades Fowler, a smart Canadian youth, who caused a flutter in philatelic circles some two years ago, by the inauguration of the *Canadian Journal of Philately*, a publication which, had it survived its swaddling clothes, might have developed into the finest stamp journal published on the other side. Unfortunately, Fowler had no capital, and very little business sagacity; and the paper died in its infancy, leaving its youthful editor-proprietor deep in the mire of insolvency. He is now married, and rumour says doing well as an employee of the Toronto branch of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

* * *

SAYS a writer in *Mekeel's Weekly*: "Criticisms are current to the effect that Charles J. should remove the beam from his own eye before calling the world's attention to the mote in his German brother's optic."



EDITOR LUHN of the *Southern Philatelist*, in his September number informs his

readers that he, "one of Charleston's most energetic business men," has got married to "one of Charleston's most accomplished daughters," and that "our combined weight is 237lbs." May their shadows, nor their "combined weight," ever grow less!

* * *

Our leading stamp dealers have been getting themselves weighed. Mr. W. H. Peckitt scales only 9st. 2lbs., Mr. Giwelb goes 4lb. better, Mr. Whitfield King looks well on his 10st. 9lbs., but the heavy weights of the lists are Mr. T. W. Jones at 12st. 2lbs., and Mr. Charles J. Phillips at a level 13st.

* * *

ONE of the best collections in America is that of James W. Paul, jun., a member of the great banking firm of Drexel and Company, of Philadelphia. Mr. Paul has recently had his collection insured for £6,000. It contains many thousands of stamps. The American group is complete. Mr. Paul has many stamps worth from £40 to £100 each. For one stamp

If you desire honesty in the Stamps



BY ALFRED JINGLE.

WHY on earth doesn't some enterprising one start a New Issue shop in the Strand? You might as well look for a flea in a bundle of straw as expect to find a new issue less than three years old in that philatelic thoroughfare.

No, stay! I must make one exception. I did find a full supply of the New Portuguese postals on show last week. But then there is no particular credit due to the dealers for that bit of promptitude, for of course you have heard that Dom Carlos himself dropped in with a supply for each dealer, and a presentation set for the secretary of the S.S.S.S.

"Beautiful set!" says the secretary. "Aint they?" says Dom Carlos. "Any compound perfs?" says the secretary, "Well, if you want a few—" said Dom Carlos, stroking his chin.

"And a few surcharges, double and inverted."

"Next January," said Dom Carlos, "Not till January."

"I 'spose these aint speculative, Carlos?" says the secretary.

"On my word of honour," protested the king. "Our Royal Exchequer is already so full of gold that more revenue would be an unnecessary burden. But, I say, old fellow," whispered the king, "for God's sake don't mention 'em to your committee."

Some good people must have burnt their fingers over the commemorative stamp of the Transvaal, for the thing was no sooner issued than it was tabooed by the S.S.S.S., and, of course, immediately withdrawn from sale by nearly every respectable dealer. But I note that one provincial innocent, in his journal, says, "there is a great demand for them, and the value already exceeds one shilling." I think it is very much open to doubt that there are a million and half fools in the philatelic ranks to buy even at face, the million and half stamps so readily gobbled up by the speculators.

Have you seen the American Philatelic Comic—*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*? There are some grand tit-bits in it, mostly from the pen of "I'll-have-you-all-up-for-libel." But in a recent issue a Mr. Squeakinbush has a good item. Squeakin about the American petition on Speculative Issues, he says, "Petitions are all very well in their way; but if our forefathers had never gone beyond petitioning in their efforts to secure their rights, America might to-day be under the thumb of the British lion." I have heard of the mane, and the tail, and the jaws of the British lion, but never before of his thumb. A lion's thumb and the celebrated U.S. error of colour would be a good beginning for a Mekeel museum.

What a grand J.P. is Sir John Bridge. His reasons for dismissing the case against the *Bazaar* for publishing illustrations of stamps were tip-top. I feel inclined to present him with a Post Office Mauritius. But its just the sensible decision you would expect from the man. The last time I was had up before him for being dr—Great Scott! what am I talking about?

What about a Congress of Philatelists in London after the style of the Philatelic Congresses on the Continent? Is anyone going to make a move? Of course everybody is waiting for everybody else, and all the lot will wait for the Premier Society.

But may I suggest that if those who think it worth trying do not feel strong enough to start the ball rolling themselves, they might do something to persuade, say the London Philatelic Society, to discuss its feasibility.

Personally, I should like to see it discussed, and I feel certain that a deputation to the London Philatelic Society to discuss it would be courteously received—with a wink at the Canteen.

I am not quite clear as to the bill of fare which is to draw collectors together. Will some one map out a possible programme and let us see what it looks like?



ONE RESULT OF THE LEeward ISLANDS BOOM.

THE present boom in West Indian Stamps seems to have created a demand for literature appertaining to the subject. The only good book known to us is the one published by the London Philatelic Society, which now, however, commands such an exorbitant price that it is beyond the reach of the average collector. A little work we have just received entitled "A Priced Catalogue of the Adhesive Stamps of the Leeward Isles," by R. Hollick, should therefore be just the thing wanted. Although great pains evidently have been taken over this work, and a great deal of information is given which has not previously been gathered together in such a concise form, we cannot say that it is a publication of great value to the philatelist. The advanced philatelist will miss a great deal which might have been included, while the medium collector will look upon much of the information given as superfluous. In other words, the little book is neither one thing nor the other, whereas the preface leads us to suppose that it is published for the benefit of other than "advanced" collectors.

There is one thing to which we must allude in unmistakable terms, and that is the statement that the prices, &c., in the book have been revised by Mr. T. H. Thompson. We are authorised to state that Mr. Thompson never even saw the proof-sheets. With the prices he has had nothing whatever to do, although he has given the publishers of the book a good deal of information. The prices given are taken from an old list of Mr. Thompson's, long since obsolete.

Inaccuracies have crept in here and there. For instance, it is stated that the long fiscal Antiguan were never on sale at the Post Office for postal purposes. This is incorrect, for the stamp was obtainable for a short time as a provisional.

We are glad to see that due prominence has been given to the variety of the postmarks used in the Leeward Islands. Although we have such an authority as Major Evans as an opponent, we can but impress upon our readers that the study of postmarks in the British Colonies is, to our mind, a most valuable and interesting adjunct to the study of stamps. For instance, the provisional Antigua was issued and sold also in St. Kitts. The postmarks for the two islands are respectively Aoz and A12. The presence of this latter postmark on one of these stamps is absolutely the only mark by which it can be identified as coming from St. Kitts.—(O.E.D.)

And before we close our review of this little book, we would draw attention to a remark concerning the postal fiscals of the Leeward Isles which we cordially endorse. These stamps should never be recognised as genuine unless on the original envelope with receiving and despatching postmarks.

PHILATELY AND THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

THE *Financial News* has got hold of the petition despatched to South American Governments by the American Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps. In that petition the argument appears that the constant issue of new stamps "tends to weaken the credit" of the countries concerned. This is the cue of the *Financial News*. "In future," says that journal, "the Stock Exchange will have to keep an eye on postage stamps, and we may live to read that 'Costamalan Nines were lower on the announcement of a new postage stamp issue.'"

THE "SENSATION" OF THE FUTURE.

"It is evident," said a friend the other day, after the perusal of a philatelic auction report, "that the sensational robbery of the future will not be of jewels! If a little square of printed paper can be worth £250, it is perfectly possible for one envelope to contain a king's ransom. Depend upon it, we shall be startled some morning by such headlines as these in our matutinal journals:

**GIGANTIC STAMP ROBBERY,
A MILLIONAIRE'S POCKET PICKED,
UNIQUE SPECIMENS MISSING,
THE POLICE HAVE A CLUE.**

Then will follow a harrowing tale of how Mr. Vanderastor incautiously unbuttoned his coat while sitting next a clerical-looking gentleman in an omnibus, and how the great man subsequently missed his jewelled pocket-book containing postage stamps of the aggregate value of over a quarter of a million sterling. And of how the police have a clue, and believe that the clerical-looking gentleman was none other than Nick Slippy, the boldest and most accomplished peripatetic annexer of his time!"

HILCKES' BUREAU THE ONLY REMEDY.

What protection is there in this country for persons sending out stamps on approval? The question is often asked and answered, but seldom answered in the right way. The editor of the *Bazaar's* Philatelic Supplement takes up nearly thirty lines of letterpress in explaining that the question is a difficult one to answer. "A circulating *private black list* amongst dealers," he writes, "would do much good to stop the evil complained of; but such a list would not be published without running the gravest risk of actions for libel." Gravest risk, indeed! Gravest certainty is the word. Up on the head of the publisher of such a black list, writs would fall as thick as leaves in Vallambrosa. No, the true remedy is Hilckes' Enquiry Bureau, and the sooner those dealers who do approval business wake up to this fact, the better for them!

SIDE LIGHTS ON PHILLIPS, BY R. F. ALBRECHT.

Is a masterly article in the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, Mr. R. F. Albrecht discusses Gibbons' Catalogue and the catalogue question generally, and among other things supports the contention often expressed by the **STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY**, that what Mr. Charles J. Phillips calls the "only true method of stamp valuation," is not the true method at all. An interesting side light on the methods of Mr. Charles J. Phillips is afforded by an extract from a letter written by that gentleman in reply to Mr. Albrecht's request that "Our Catalogue" should be reviewed in the "House Organ" of Stanley Gibbons, Limited. Here it is:—

I never review catalogues of other dealers, with the exception of Moens, which as a price list is of no use to anyone. It is very much against my interests to let the public know the prices of all varieties, like are priced in your book, and think it is very much against your own to price them. You are giving away all your special knowledge, which I think is most injudicious. If I priced everything in my catalogue I should not be able to buy anything cheap, and I am very much against letting collectors know of catalogues where all these things are priced.

In the face of such statements as these, Mr. R. F. Albrecht thinks there is grave reason to doubt Mr. Phillips's sincerity, or the sincerity of the quotations in his "Catalogue;" and we think that every fair minded man will say ditto to that sentiment!

ANOTHER MUSHROOM.

We have received a copy of the *English Specialists' Journal* published by Mr. Ewen, of Swanage, which purports to fill a long felt want, and to be of special service to English specialists. As our readers will remember the advisability of publishing such a journal has been broached in these columns some months ago by Mr. E. Heron-Allen. We then considered the question and came to the conclusion that unless such a journal was conducted by an expert of many years standing, who would really teach his readers something, it would be of little use to the philatelic public. The number before us contains about five small pages of matter,

the rest being filled with advertisements or general notices. The articles in same are very feeble indeed and contain absolutely nothing new. A small list of 1d. red, plate numbers, used abroad, has evidently been copied from the "S.C.F.," and with the exception of a few, it contains hardly any new material. The only article of interest is the list of Post Offices in the United Kingdom, but as it is chiefly copied from the official list, and as it contains very little of philatelic value, we cannot see the use of it. The price of the little Journal, 6d. post free, is excessive and will be the greatest stumbling-block to its success. Why a remark that a 2d. post paid Mauritius block of four was sold for £210 was inserted in an English Specialists' Journal, is beyond our ken.

WHITFIELD KING versus REPRINTS.

SOME considerable time ago, in fact in No. 1 we mentioned that a firm of provincial stamp dealers were on the eve of giving up Reprints altogether. The firm in question was Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., who, in their list for November and December just published, announce that in future they will not quote any Reprints in their list, and anyone who wants Reprints can obtain a special offer on application. They clearly indicate that they have been won over to the "anti-reprinters." When we published our "Catalogue of Reprints" in September, 1892, the idea that Reprints would at any time be boycotted altogether was laughed at; still we were the first firm in this country who refused to deal in such. In the May following Messrs. Stanley Gibbons printed in their Catalogue that they also would not sell any more Reprints. The next firm to publicly denounce them was Messrs. H. A. McMillan & Co., and since then a good many smaller firms have followed suit. To-day there is hardly a collector in this country who does not class Reprints as being on a par with forgeries, or at best "Seebecks." Our "Catalogue of Reprints" is now nearly sold out and there is a new edition in preparation.

*Much Ado about a Die.***THE ISLAND REVENUE AUTHORITIES PROCEED AGAINST MR. UPCOTT GILL FOR ILLUSTRATING STAMPS.**

(By our Special Commissioner—NOT of Inland Revenue.)

YES, in the interests of the **STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY**, the British Public, and humanity generally, I went to Bow Street to attend the case described on the programme for the day as "Commissioners of Inland Revenue v. Upcott Gill." Mr. Upcott Gill is editor and proprietor of the *Bazaar*; the other parties are well known to every loyal income tax payer in this country.

Mr. Alpe prosecuted; Mr. Charles Matthews appeared for the defendant.

Punctually at two o'clock, on the afternoon of Thursday, November 7th, the two contestants entered the ring, and Sir John Bridge gave the word for the sparring to commence.

Mr. Alpe, in opening the case, stated that he appeared for the Commissioners of Inland Revenue. The summons was taken out under Section 7 of the Post Office Protection Act, 47 and 48 Vic., Chap. 70. The defendant was a newspaper proprietor and printer, carrying on business in the Strand, and having works in Drury Lane. He was charged with having, between May 15th and June 11th, had in his possession a certain block or instrument for making a postal stamp; that was to say, a postal stamp used at the Cape of Good Hope, and worth twopence-halfpenny. According to the Act, it was illegal for a person to have in his possession, without lawful excuse, any material for making fictitious stamps. It would be proved that defendant had in his possession a block for printing stamps. That had since been tried by Messrs. De La Rue, the well known printers, and it produced a stamp which might have deceived anyone if it had been sent through the Post Office. The penalty for this was £20 only, as the die produced an imitation of a Colonial stamp. Had the defendant imitated a British stamp he might have been prosecuted for felony.

We hardly think so.

Arthur Llewellyn, Detective Inspector of Inland Revenue, was then called. He stated that on June 1st he went to the printing works connected with the *Bazaar and Mart*. He saw a number of dies, but the manager refused to give them to him. On June 7th he again went to the place and asked defendant to give him the dies. Defendant gave him four. He took them to Somerset House. They detained one there, and instructed witness to hand back the other three. He had been to Van Hoytam the same day. He was a gentleman at whose order these dies had been made. He said he had handed the dies to the defendant. When witness first went to the office he saw a compositor who said he could not hand the dies over without an order from his superior, Mr. Bradley. When Mr. Bradley came in he told him he could not hand them over without an order from the defendant.

In reply to Mr. Matthews, witness said he was told that the dies were being used in the production of a Philatelic Supplement to defendant's paper. At least, he thought he was told so, but was not quite sure. The foreman offered to let him have some prints from the blocks. Eventually he took the prints, finding that he could not get the blocks.

Mr. Matthews: Do you know that prior to your visit the defendant and Van Hoytam had been to Somerset House?

Witness: No, I don't know. Yes, I think they did.

Mr. Matthews: Did you not introduce them to the solicitors' department?

Witness: Yes, I think I did; but some considerable time has elapsed since then. I don't know what was said. I was present at the interview; but I did not pay the slightest attention to what was said. Defendant may have produced a Supplement showing what the dies were to be used for. He may have offered to produce the dies, but I am not quite sure. I saw forty-four dies at the printing works, but I only took four.

Mr. Alpe: What did the foreman say to you?

Witness: He said it would take 150 men to get the dies (laughter).

Mr. Matthews: Not 150 Llewellyns (laughter).

Henry Hursley, a foreman in the employ of Messrs. De La Rue, produced some stamps printed from the block in question, and said they were to all intents and purposes the same as Cape stamps.

Sir John Bridge: Is it an offence to publish that supplement? This gentleman intended these dies for the purpose of printing the supplement, and it is a question whether it is illegal.

Mr. Alpe: Exactly. I do not impute anything dishonourable. All we want to prove is that he has offended against the Act.

Sir John Bridge: It is admitted that he had the die in his possession, and the question is whether he had a lawful excuse.

Mr. Matthews: As to a lawful excuse, a question of law, as well as of fact, will arise. I contend that there was no imitation, such as to deceive anyone.

Mr. Matthews at this point handed in a catalogue, consisting of facsimiles of foreign and Colonial stamps, and an album for the use of collectors, filled with prints of a like character.

Mr. Alpe: We say they are illegal.

Mr. Matthews: Then why don't you do something?

Mr. Alpe: We are doing something.

Mr. Matthews: Stanley Gibbons has published these things for years, and you have done nothing.

Mr. Alpe: He gets his dies from abroad.

Mr. Matthews: But he uses them here. Look at this stamp collecting book.

Mr. Alpe: It is getting very common, and that is why we want to stop it. This thing is done in a great number of places, and we want to show that it is illegal.

An expert witness was called to prove that the stamp produced by the defendant's block was a fairly good imitation of the Cape stamp.

Mr. Matthews said he was glad Mr. Alpe had admitted that there had been no dishonourable conduct on the

part of the defendant. At the same time, it was only fair to admit it, and defendant was entitled to the benefit of the statement. The defendant had tried to get from the Inland Revenue Authorities permission to do what he was now charged with doing. The dies were made in Amsterdam, and when they arrived in this country they were stopped by the Customs Authorities. An explanation ensued, and the Customs Authorities were satisfied. There had been great delay in taking these proceedings, and he ventured to think that the Authorities would have done well had they communicated with the defendant before issuing this summons. The stamps were printed in black and white. There was no colouring matter, and there was no deceit. The Inland Revenue people had been very slow in waking up. Mr. Stanley Gibbons had been issuing a catalogue of stamps for twenty years or more. The defendant had issued his stamp supplement for educational purposes, and to make his paper more interesting, that, surely, was a lawful excuse.

Sir John Bridge: If you can show positively that from beginning to end the defendant's conduct has been that of an innocent man then you establish your lawful excuse. You must show absolutely that there has been no fraud.

Mr. Alpe: We have no evidence that these dies were locked up. Any other person might have got hold of them, and used them for the purpose of defrauding the Revenue.

Sir John Bridge: If he got them for the paper for the purpose of amusing and instructing it is a question if that is not a lawful excuse.

Mr. Alpe: It is proved that he had dies for making fictitious stamps, and that is as illegal as having machinery for making counterfeit coins. If this is allowed, how is it possible to protect the revenue?

Sir John Bridge: I think the possession of stamps of this sort or any facsimiles of them is a *prima facie* offence, and the man who is so in possession must show that he has a lawful excuse for its possession. I think I should be very slow to come to the conclusion there was a lawful excuse, because it is very improper that these stamps should be so printed as to give any dishonest person a means of putting his dishonesty into force. But I think here there is a lawful excuse, because it has been shown that these stamps were used simply as a means of education and amusement. In this case, I think a lawful excuse has been made out, but I do that reserving to myself the full effect of what I have said, that to have these dies in one's possession is *prima facie* an offence, and requires the strongest evidence that there is a lawful excuse, but the whole effect of what I have said is that the possession of these stamps is *prima facie* an offence. The summons is dismissed.

Mr. Alpe: I hope what you have said will cause people to see that they cannot have these things in their possession without considerable risk.

Finally, the representative of Somerset House obtained fourteen days' leave of appeal, and there was a feeling in court that this would be taken advantage of. Our Mr. Hilckes was there to give expert evidence as a witness for the defence, but his testimony was not needed.

THE "BAZAAR" SPEAKS OUT.

COMMENTING on the case, the *Bazaar* of Wednesday last (Nov. 13th) says: "On the whole we have reason to rejoice at the course the Inland Revenue authorities saw fit to take, but we have also reason to complain of the excessively shabby way they went to work. There is a right and a wrong way of doing most things, and in this case the authorities chose the wrong. Mr. Upcott Gill went voluntarily to the Solicitors of the Inland Revenue, without having had any communication whatever from them, to show them the purposes of the illustrations, and that fraud was neither intended nor was possible with the blocks used. At that interview the authorities pointed out four illustrations which they thought might have been made from blocks which they claimed were an infringement of the Act, and they asked if Mr. Upcott Gill would let them have the blocks to see and if necessary try, to which the reply was "Certainly, with pleasure." They sent their officers to our office, and the four blocks were handed to him. Three

of the four blocks were returned in the course of a day or two, and from that day to the service of the summons, October 17th, nearly five months after, nothing more was heard of the matter, and we naturally concluded that it was settled, and the authorities satisfied with our explanations. Considering the spontaneous manner in which we went to them in the first place, and in the second place the readiness with which on a mere request we placed at their disposal certain blocks, we think the authorities accorded us very dirty treatment in not having communicated with us, and in issuing a summons. If they wanted a test case, they could at least have arranged for it as gentlemen. Had we failed in our defence, we should have had our Philatelists' Supplement printed in Holland, to the great loss of English printers, who are in none so flourishing a condition as to see with calmness trade they want badly being driven out of the country by meddlesome interference."

Announcements of Filckes' Enquiry Bureau.

WE wish to warn our readers against the following persons who have recently obtained stamps from various quarters, and have either disappeared or refused to reply. Mr. C. Roberts, of Rusholme, Manchester.—Numerous complaints have been received from various quarters, and we have also learned that many London dealers have been "let in" by this party. We publish a specimen of his hand-writing for future reference.

Yours faithfully
C. H. Roberts.

City of London Philatelic Club.

ANNUAL MEETING.—IMPORTANT.

A COMMITTEE MEETING will be held on Saturday, November 16th.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING has been postponed, owing to unavoidable circumstances, to Monday, November 18th, when all Members are earnestly requested to be in attendance, as a great many important matters will then come up for discussion.



WHY SOME FOREIGN DEALERS DISTRUST LONDONERS.

BY the exploits of such men as Tomasso Coelho and Harold Conne, Londoners are the chief sufferers. "Dealers abroad" (remarks the *Indian Postage Stamp News*, in the course of an article on this subject) "are reluctant to despatch heavy money orders to London, the centre of world's philately, in view of the presence of international scamps."

THIRTY-EIGHT YEARS A STAMP DEALER.

As a frontispiece to the current *Austria Philatelist* there is presented a capital portrait of Mons. J. B. Moens, of Brussels. M. Moens, we are reminded, has been an active philatelist for thirty-eight years, and has received numberless medals and diplomas from continental philatelic societies.

IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE STAMPS, KEEP THEM!

From information obtained at the post office in this city (says the well-informed San Francisco correspondent of *Mekel's Weekly*) it would appear that there is some one in the East operating to secure a corner in the stamps of the current issue on unwatermarked paper. It is generally known that but a comparatively few of this value were printed on the unwatermarked paper before the order came to print all the stamps on watermarked paper, which is now being done.

Only 2,000 of the \$1 unwatermarked stamps were received by the San Francisco post office. After about 500 of these had been disposed of, a telegram came from an Eastern firm requesting that 1,200 of the stamps be reserved for it until the money for them could be forwarded. This was done, and the local office was thus left with but 300 of the unwatermarked stamps.

Before, however, this order of the Eastern firm was filled, inquiry was made of the Washington authorities whether a new supply \$1.00 stamps could be immediately forwarded. When a favourable answer was received the 1,200 stamps were allowed to go East.

When the new supply came they were all found to be on watermarked paper, and it was not long before all those on the unwatermarked paper were disposed of in the regular course of business.

When rumours of the above incidents leaked out numerous inquiries were made of the stamp clerk, but too late, and the fortunate holders of a specimen or specimens of this stamp estimate they are worth \$5 each."

THREE YEARS IN CAUL FOR A STAMP THIEF.

GEORGE BADEN, who has robbed many Berlin dealers, has just been sentenced to three years' imprisonment. He was recognised by the police as a person who had been already punished for theft. His arrest is due to the energy of Mr. J. Schlesinger, the well-known dealer.

THE "Y" OF CUBA, AGAIN!

FRANCISCU'S, the usually well-informed Berlin correspondent of the *Monthly Journal*, remarks in his latest "Letter":

The meaning of the letter Y on the Y stamps of Cuba has long been a mystery. According to Herr Friederich, the author of a special work on the stamps of Spain and her Colonies, mentioned by me last year, that mysterious letter does not mean anything else but a commercial abbreviation of "real," just as "d." means "penny." As the currency has been changed more than once in Cuba since that good old time, the meaning of the "Y" had been forgotten by most people. We are indebted to the earnest researches of Herr Friederich for the resuscitation of this old conventional sign.

By a singular coincidence there is also an article on the subject in the *Timbre Poste* for November, and the writer thereof comes to the conclusion that "Y" signifies "Ynterior (real)." It might be as well for "Franciscus," and Herr Friederich, aye, and Mons. J. B. Moens, too, to read an article on this subject which appeared about six months ago in the *FORTNIGHTLY*. It might induce them to change their minds!

BEWARE OF THIS MEXICAN REPRINT.

WRITING from City of Mexico, under date September 28th, Mr. S. Chapman says: "I have a copy of the reprint of the 20c. puce, of Mexico, in my possession and find that the same is printed on the hard thinnish watermarked paper on which the last printing of the general figure series appeared, whereas the genuine 20c. was issued on a softer, thicker paper without watermark, so that this forms a very simple test of genuineness. Further, the colour of the reprint is much darker than that of the original issue." Mr. Chapman adds that an order has been issued for the destruction of the plates of the now obsolete issue, so that all danger of further reprinting is apparently past.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 16, 1895.



BETWEEN OURSELVES.

WE had hoped to bury the hatchet of controversy with our last issue, but the latest number of the *Monthly Journal* forces us to continue this

subject. Mr. Charles J. Phillips' *locum tenens*, whoever he may be, seeks to bolster up the reputation of the Gibbons Catalogue by printing a long series of unsolicited testimonials. These so-called tributes to the excellence of the catalogue are of the flimsiest character. There are first of all a number of letters contributed by such mysterious individuals as "X.Y.Z.," "Alpha," and so on, which may or may not be genuine. These may be passed over in silence, but one pauses in amused astonishment before the grand (?) array of Press encomiums. The *London Philatelist*, the *Philatelic Record*, and the *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* are the only papers out of which the publishers of "the best catalogue in the world" can squeeze a word of praise. The attitude of the *London Philatelist* on this question we do not pretend to understand; the *Philatelic Record* is not a paper of much importance; and as for the *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung*, that we believe is the only German philatelic journal which has expressed a favourable word concerning the shoddy production which is called, in the Strand, a catalogue. Will Mr. Phillips translate for his readers' benefit the opinions of the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*? We think not. And has Mr. Phillips noticed this pregnant par in *Philatelic Facts and Fancies*, a leading American paper?

According to the expressions heard upon all sides from collectors and dealers, Stanley Gibbons' New Catalogue is far from meeting expectations. In fact, it proved a great disappointment to all, both as to mechanical work and as to its value as a book of reference.

Or this, in the Boston letter to the *Weekly Philatelic Era*:—

Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue was received here recently, and I have no hesitation in saying that in the main it is considered a flat failure. The press work is poor; the illustrations wretched; and the pricing gives universal dissatisfaction.

Instances might be multiplied indefinitely. Mr. Harold Frederic declares for "the foreigners" (meaning Senf) in

Pearson's Weekly. Every paper we take up contains some unfavourable or slighting reference to Gibbons' Catalogue; and we are not going to allow the public to be hoodwinked by the *Monthly Journal*. To crown all the absurdities of this list of testimonials in the *Monthly Journal*, there is a letter from Marens Ward & Co., highly eulogising the catalogue. This would be all very well were it not for the fact that *Marens Ward & Co. are Stanley Gibbons' trade agents!*

We are now daily expecting to hear that such letters as the following have passed through the post:—

Dear Major Evans,—The Catalogue is excellent; the best I have ever seen. Allow me to congratulate you. Yours sincerely,

CHARLES J. PHILLIPS.

Dear Mr. Phillips,—I feel that I must drop you a line in praise of Stanley Gibbons' latest catalogue. I call a spade a spade I do; and I see no reason why Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue should not be called *perfora*—I mean, perfection. Always yours sincerely,

E. B. EVANS, (MAJOR).

A queer world, my masters! For an interesting par that bears on this question, our readers will do well to refer to "Philately at Home" in this issue.

P.C.B.

* * *

WE are informed by Mr. F. Wickhart, the Secretary of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society that a case of some importance will be held next Thursday, the 21st November, at the Westminster County Court. Of course the FORTNIGHTLY will be represented and will duly report the proceedings. The matter being *sub judice* we refrain from naming names.

* * *

IN another column we give the report of a case which was decided last week and which is of the utmost importance not only to the trade but also to philatelists in general. Our readers will remember that some time ago a great noise was occasioned by the abrupt seizure of stamp catalogues and albums in the United States, as it was contended that the publication of catalogues and albums containing full-sized illustrations of stamps was contrary to law. After much wrangling between the authorities and stamp dealers, it was at last decided that the authorities were wrong, and the books and publications seized were released. As will be seen from our report, the Board of Inland Revenue took into their heads (no doubt they were in want of some employment) to pounce down upon Mr. Upcot Gill, editor of the *Philatelic Supplement* of the *Bazaar*, for being in possession of a half-tone block of a current 2½d. Cape stamp. Why of all things they should take it into their heads to make the possession of a half-tone block to be a contravention of the Post Office Protection Act is inexplicable, and we are happy to say that the summons was dismissed. It is, of course, quite right and proper that the authorities should watch that no blocks or printing implements should get into dishonest hands; but if the authorities had succeeded in making out their case, the consequences might have been ruinous to philately in this country. If it is against the law to publish an illustration in that form, it would simply mean that no philatelic book could be printed in this country, containing illustrations: the natural consequence of such decision would be, that all our philatelic literature would have to be printed abroad, as the law does not provide against importation of books thus illustrated. We have seen the block in question, also an impression taken by Messrs. De la Rue in order to show that impressions taken from these blocks are dangerous to the Post Office. We will refrain from making any remark on this point at this date; but it is quite possible that Messrs. De la Rue will hear more about it.

H.H.

* * *

PHILATELISTS are not doing their duty towards the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps. Every serious collector of stamps ought to give this S.S.S.S. association, not only his sympathy, but his practical support. Five shillings a year is such a trifle to the great majority of earnest philatelists that we can only

conclude that the omission to subscribe to the Society's membership fund is due in a great number of cases to forgetfulness or to a feeling that five shillings more or less is of no importance. The mere trouble of addressing an envelope and purchasing a five shilling Postal Order has, we feel sure, deprived the S.S.S.S. of many subscriptions that would otherwise have come to hand. Now this is not a proper state of things at all. The S.S.S.S. is fighting the battle of Philately, fighting it manfully and well; and if philatelists want to be protected they must pay for the powder and shot. The strongholds of the foe are falling one by one. Seebeck has capitulated. St. Antoine is scotched. Little San Marino's battalions have learned a lesson they will not easily forget. But this metaphor habit, engendered by a constant persual of the *London Philatelist*, is a dangerous thing. In plain everyday parlance then, the subscription to the S.S.S.S. is 5s. per annum; the work of the Society is such as to benefit every earnest philatelist, and therefore every stamp collector who has the interest of his hobby at heart should feel it to be his duty to become a member.

Readers of the FORTNIGHTLY, who may at any time be writing to us are recommended to kill two birds with one stone, by enclosing their subscription to the S.S.S.S. An acknowledgment will gladly be sent, and the remittance forthwith transmitted to the Secretary of the S.S.S.S. at 391, Strand. P.C.B.

Collectable Varieties.

FROM THE GENERALIST'S STANDPOINT.

JOS. F. BURNETT, S.C.S.

THE Varieties of Stamps come under five groups, to wit: Paper, Perforation, Watermark, Colour, and Type. By the time the variations of one of these groups are multiplied by their repetitions in one or more of the other groups, an enormous number results, so that the philatelist, who desires his collection to be as widely representative as possible, finds himself bewildered and in difficulty as to what he shall collect or not. The object of the present article is to throw out a hint or two from my own experience which may serve as general guides to our younger *confrères*. I do not write at all in a dictatorial spirit; every collector has a perfect right to collect what he will, and I do not wish to raise a controversy with those who may differ in opinion from myself, but simply to shew how I manage to get such a vast problem as the collecting of the Postal Adhesives of the world into manageable limits. I now, without further preamble, take my five groups *seriatim*—

1.—*Paper*.—When the introduction of a new variety of paper occurs in any given set of stamps, I decide whether I shall collect it chiefly on this question: Does it mark any notable change in the issue, or is it accidental? When a given stamp printed for a longer or shorter period upon say wove paper suddenly makes its appearance on laid, if it is the result of pure accident, I do not consider it worth my attention; but if it denoted the transference of a government contract from one firm to another, or herald the approach of a new issue, I endeavour to obtain it. A large number of stamps which seem to have been printed indiscriminately upon all sorts and conditions of papers. Such as the first issue of Austria, while offering an unlimited field to the specialist, are best dealt with by the generalist by collecting one set, taking care that his set contains some printed upon thick and some upon thin paper, and, if he can get them (!), some upon ribbed paper.

2.—*Perforation*.—Here again, as indeed all through these groups, I lay primary stress upon the varied, constituting a *new edition*, and everything of an accidental nature I consider of secondary importance. No collector can afford to ignore the 12½ and 14 Perforated Issues so well known in many of our Colonial issues, e.g.: Sierra Leone, Barbados, Gold Coast, &c. The perforation characters here are marked and constant, and I could not regard as a philatelist any collector who neglected them. The Eagle issue of Austria (perf. 14

and 9½) affords another example of what I mean. But I am forced to draw the line at the variations which do not denote anything but that the stamp printer uses perforating machines of any or every gauge that he may happen to have in working order, and where endless complications occur in one issue, e.g.: the current Austrians and Hungarians.

3.—*Watermarks*.—We must all pay attention to these. Their significance is too important for even a tyro to ignore them. The only watermark varieties I do not trouble about are such things as inverted, reversed, and misplaced watermarks, all the result of carelessness or accident on the part of the printer putting the sheet into the press wrong way up or out of register. Watermark errors I cannot but consider interesting—for example: in the laureated issue of Victoria. I have been on the lookout for these for years and am glad to possess a fair sprinkling of them. Their interest lies in the fact that upon the advent of the Crown and V paper, all the old stocks of numerically watermarked paper seem to have been used up promiscuously, and therefore these errors mark a distinct epoch in the history of the stamps of this country.

4.—*Color*.—Correctly speaking, I should call this *shade*, as I take it that even a schoolboy would look after a difference in color, properly so-called, as, for example, the first 1d. English, first appearing in black and next in red or red-brown. With regard to shades: such things as pale lilac, reddish-lilac, lilac-rose, dark lilac, &c., are somewhat of a weariness to the flesh, and while the specialist may revel in them, I prefer to take two extremes where the shade varies much. One of my friends has a page full of shade varieties of the Austrian newspaper stamp with head of Mercury; I am content with two, one which is a dark, dull, slaty color, the other a bright lilac, brighter and rather redder than the current 1d. Great Britain.

5.—*Type*.—This subject at once divides itself into two heads: first, those cases in which a number of types occur together on the same sheet (Sydney Views, early Bolivias, some Bremens, &c.) and those in which a sheet printed from one plate differs from a sheet printed from another plate (plates of English, bearing plate numbers). In either case, type varieties are interesting, and unless the number is considerable, as in those cases where each stamp on a sheet has a type all its own, I am to get them. I may instance the first issue of the 5 centavos green of Bolivia. These stamps were issued in sheets of seventy-two, each one of different type. These are too many for the generalist, and so I leave them alone. But this plate shews five successive engravings. (1) Original engraving. (2) First re-engraving. (3) Second re-engraving. (4) Third re-engraving. (5) Fourth re-engraving. I therefore collect at least these five varieties, one from each state of the plate. Varying types of surcharges frequently crop up. The varieties in the two cents on the four of Ceylon (some with value in figures, some in words, with and without bar, &c.) constitute, in my judgment, collectable varieties; but inverted surcharges have no more interest for me than inverted watermarks.

In the next place, I want to bring out a point which I consider a considerable saving of money and album room to the generalist, though not by any means a saving of patience or trouble. I have reviewed stamp varieties under five groups, and my point is, that one specimen may often be made to represent two or even three of my fine peculiarities. A few examples will make my meaning clear: The 3 grote stamp of Bremen exists in three types, and all occur imperf., serrate, and perforated. Type I. I collect imperf. Type II. serrate, and Type III. perf., so I can make three stamps show the varieties of nine. Again, the stamps of Roumania of 1885 to 1889 present a large field to the specialist, with regard to white and tinted paper, watermark, shade, &c. I possess three sets. (1) White water. (2) Tinted paper. (3) Watermarked paper, and while collecting these, I find I have three distinct shades as well in the majority of cases. Anyone who collects three specimens of the 3 ban of 1890 type (wmk. arms, no wmk., wmk. P.R.) will, I expect, find his appetite for shades duly satisfied.

I might by similar examples prolong this paper indefinitely, but enough has been said to indicate the broad general principles (of course, I have exceptions. And who has not?) which guide me indiscriminating between what I want and what I do not trouble to take.

In conclusion, let me again say I do not want to dogmatise, nor yet to open a discussion on this very debateable subject, but merely to give to others my opinions and methods which are the result of some years' experience as a philatelist.



NOTICE in Stanley Gibbons' *Journal* for November, a letter from Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen, as follows:—"I notice in this fortnight's "S.C.F." a mean unjustifiable attack on your Catalogue, the greater part of which seems to be greatly exaggerated if not absolutely untrue"; but Mr. Ewen writes in his own *Journal* on page 3. "We should like to know how many undoubted copies of die III. of the 10d. red-brown Messrs. Stanley Gibbons can supply at 10/-; the value of a fine copy is nearer 100/-; in our opinion about 90% of all used copies are die II. if examined carefully"—such is the consistency of men now-a-days; but I should like Mr. Ewen to point out a single statement in the Gibbons' controversy which I could not back up! The easiest way for a young beginner

is always to curry favour with an old firm; it looks so well! but he should be careful not to do it at anyone else's expense. *Schnell fertig ist die Jugend mit dem Wort.*

References.—It seems to have become the habit for many to give our name as reference after having done some business with us. Although we are very willing to oblige as far as possible, we have found out in some cases that our confidence has been abused and the answers given by us have been disclosed to third parties, we are therefore obliged from this day to discontinue giving information about anyone. Whoever wishes to make enquiries we respectfully refer them to our "Enquiry Bureau" as all information given through that department is privileged and as, in every case, special enquiries are made, it should prove far more satisfactory to our clients.

Mr. Dodson.—This party has obtained approval sheets from two quarters and given as references the names of bogus firms of solicitors and accountants in the city. We have ascertained that these people do not exist, and that at the addresses given by Dodson we found that he did not reside there, but only called at the address given for his letters, and he has not been seen there for the last six weeks.

[We would esteem it a favour if readers would communicate with us in every case where they have reason to believe that they are being fleeced. We shall investigate every case submitted to us.]



* * Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper

identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

WORDS OF PRAISE FROM FAR MONTANA.

GENTLEMEN.—In renewing my subscription to your valuable journal, I would add my testimonial to the hundreds already received by you. If ever congratulations were in order, I hold now is the time. The able manner in which you have placed before the philatelic public the *STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY* is something worthy of the praise of every philatelist in the known world. The Philatelic Personalities, Philately at Home and Abroad, Chats Between Ourselves, Review of Reviews, The Truths, etc., are all presented in a bright, sparkling manner, at once claiming the attention of the reader.

Lastly, but not least, the invaluable information given to all readers on the subject of the secret marks of the stamps of various countries, many of them issued long, long ago, and only of late brought to light through the medium of the "S.C.F.," deserves the highest appreciation and praise. Then too, the avoidance of publishing repetitions of old, stale matter obtained from other publications cannot be too highly commended. In the *STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY* you are not paying for something you have already had before, but what you get is something new, bright, interesting and instructive. Yours for the good of Philately,

Helena, Montana, 26th Oct., 1895.

W. J. B.

IN SUPPORT OF OUR POLICY.

DEAR SIR,—I am particularly glad to see not only the success to your paper—which rightly deserves it—but also the way you try to weed out all "dishonesty" in stamp-collecting and trading. My own idea is this: that unless there be a change for upright trading in stamps, stamp-collecting I fear is very likely to go to the dogs. People cannot and will not either collect or invest their money "nervously"—continually fearing "sharks" and "swindlers."

Sincerely wishing you all success, Yours truly,
Cambridge, 20th Oct., 1895. IGNATIUS KNASTER.

DEAR SIR,—Your favour is to hand with thanks. I am much obliged to you for sending me a copy of your admirable paper with particulars of your Enquiry Bureau. It has been on my mind for some time back to endeavour to start a sort of "Credit Index" similar to that adopted by Perry, Sell, and other Enquiry agents, but entirely for Philatelic purposes. I think if we took a number of dealers who would send in monthly (or at less intervals) a list of all defaulters they had come across; these names could be sent in the form of a printed circular to each member of the Association, who would, on referring to a "Key," find out what the various offences were. A nominal subscription of, say, 5/- or so, would, I am sure, bring in the whole of the trade, and would ultimately be a most powerful organization and of immense benefit—its scope would be unlimited. I have at present two other defaulters on my books—one at the Cape and one in Liberia, and I don't believe I am their first sufferer—but under existing circumstances I am quite unable to recover anything. I should esteem very highly your kind opinion on this matter. I am confident the number of stamp swindlers was never so great as it is at present, and unless stringent measures are taken to stamp out this class of swindler at once, we are encouraging the disease. Yours faithfully,

Liverpool, Nov. 3rd, 1895.

F. A. P.

Our Review of Reviews.

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

The Lithographic Errors of Oldenburg.

THE *London Philatelist* for October has a very brilliant article from the combined pens of Messrs. Castle and Ehrenbach. The subject is the Lithographic Errors of Oldenburg in the issue of 1861. The article is called forth by a criticism from Herr Paul Ohrt, contributed to a Handbook upon the Stamps of the Confederated States of Germany in course of publication by Herr Hugo Krötzsch. Herr Ohrt classes the "Errors" as mere "faulty impressions made by one and the same die on the plate," and scouts the idea of their being "classified as *bona fide* errors worthy of collectors." Messrs. Castle and Ehrenbach are well known specialists of Oldenburg. They hold that the errors are genuine, and they have consequently pulverised Herr Ohrt in their elaborate and detailed criticism of his contemptuous references to the "so called errors." The following extract gives the pith of the argument in favour of the genuineness of the "errors":—

From the original die (which is stated to be engraved on "stone") separate prints were made (as is frequently the practice) on Chinese paper, and these were then transferred on to the stone, to the number of 100, and subsequently printed from. It is in the delicate and difficult process of this very transfer that these errors were created, and Herr Ohrt's statement, that "this plate can therefore contain no transfer with a letter that is not on the original die," is ludicrously beside the mark, and indeed misses the whole point of the information he has himself adduced. If Herr Ohrt had seen and studied any number of these errors, as he should have done before condemning them, he would have recognised that the so-called varieties of letters, "d" for "1," "1" for "N," and so forth, are only generic descriptions, and that the letters are really only abortions, more nearly resembling the former than the latter items of the alphabet. It is of course obvious that these errors arose from the defective manipulation of the transfer paper on to the lithographic stone, to which in some cases it was not sufficiently firmly affixed, and that therefore, occasionally, portions of the design became pushed or rucked together, thereby altering the relative positions of the lettering, or other portions of the design, as in the case of the octagonal fourpenny of West Australia. In the pressure incidental to printing from the stone these defects, or primarily projecting portions of the design, became naturally firmly and flatly fixed; and hence the subsequent printings of that transfer present the same varieties, and these varieties must have been present on every sheet. We have seen a strip of 5 of the ½ s.g., green, from the bottom of the sheet, one of which was an error (the narrow e,) and the other four normal specimens. Another significant circumstance, which has not apparently been considered worthy of mention by Herr Ohrt, is that these errors occur only in certain printings. The varieties on the ½ s.g. all are found in the pale bluish-green, and on the 3 in the full gamboge-yellow, both being of the woolly or indistinct printing, that would seem to have been the first struck. We have examined nearly a hundred specimens of the well-known moss-green colour, but have never found the slightest deviation from the matrix die in this, or indeed in any other value or shade beyond those now submitted. It is therefore clear that these varieties only existed in certain transfers from the original die, from which they are undoubtedly deviations "in error," exactly the same, if in a less degree, as are the inverted frames of Spain, or centres of United States, which are also errors arising from a faulty reproduction of the original die. In each case the divergence arose from the negligence of the workers, and whether the original design was transferred from stone to stone, or metal to metal, does not touch the question. The plate from which any of the forenamed stamps were printed presents certain constant varieties which are not on the matrix, and which, being abnormal specimens, are certainly "errors," not of printing, as suggested by Herr Ohrt, but errors caused by imperfect stones.

Then follows an excellent and exhaustive descriptive schedule of the Errors, illustrated by a splendid page of autotypes. To students of Oldenburg, this schedule, with its minute and detailed description of each error, will be invaluable. It will set many people thinking. It has already started me off into a moralizing frame of mind, and I have found myself asking this question: "If Trausvaal ever rivals

Oldenburg as a favourite for the specialist and the same keen discrimination lays down the law as to its collectible varieties, where will it end? Instead of a modest 2,000 or 3,000, I shall need a collection running into six, if not seven figures. But this, happily, is in the sweet by and by. Meanwhile, I may be permitted to say, as one who has some practical experience of lithography, that I feel certain that Herr Ohrt must be quite innocent of the lithographic process, or he would never express such a blind faith in the infallibility of that method of reproduction. The old saying that "there is many a slip between the cup and the lip" is daily exemplified in the very best litho establishments in the matter of transfer work. No one who has any practical knowledge of the art will deny that whether the transfer be from copper or stone, the resulting impression is liable to quite a chapter of accidents; if thin transfer paper be used, such as Chinese paper, it may ruck up and give a faulty impression as an original from which the copies have to be struck off; and the best printing in the world cannot get a correct print from a faulty stone. Most of the Oldenburg errors are obviously due to the stone and not to faulty printing; indeed, so far as the printing is concerned, they are irreproachable. Then again, the temperature of the stone, and even of the room, affects the question of the perfection of transfer work. There are some days in both winter and summer when perfect litho work is next to impossible. A defective transfer is often touched up on the stone by a special artist in litho work, and the wonder to me is that more variations due to such retouching have not been discovered in stamps produced by lithography. In all probability we are only on the eve of discovery in the matter of minor varieties due to the intermittent intervention of the retouch, both in litho and metal plate engraving.

Colour Measurement.

Are we within sight of a solution of all our many difficulties in the matter of the correct and uniform definition of the colours of stamps? I am almost inclined to hope that we are. On the 5th inst., *The Times* called attention to a little instrument invented by Mr. J. W. Lovibond, for the discrimination of colours for commercial purposes and immediately the wary and watchful philatelist pounced upon it as possible solution to some of his own colour troubles. Since then the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* published an exceedingly interesting and important explanation of the scope of the Tintometer, signed "Catharine Lovibond," presumably a relative of the inventor. It is unfortunate that this letter should have been "unavoidably held over," for the *P.J.G.B.* has thus missed the opportunity of being first in the field. I take the liberty of quoting it in full:—

Sir,—In your September number there are quotations from American journals calling attention to the necessity for a method of registering the colour in stamps, and suggesting an "Universal Colour Chart."

The writers appear to be unaware that there is such a system of measuring and recording already in general use for other colour work but not yet applied in a systematic manner to stamps, although it has been used in that direction for several years for private information. The colours are measured by means of tinted glasses, graded into scales according to their depth, and numbered. In matching any colour the numbers on the glasses represent that particular tone or shade.

Below I append a series of measurements made for my own use. Except in the last two examples the specimens had all been stamped with the obliterating stamp, which, by soiling them, would add something to the neutral tint.

The current ½d. vermilion adhesive.

Neutral Tint or Black.	Orange.	Red.
A.—0.65	+ 3.55	+ 8.8
B.—0.2	+ 4.3	+ 6.3

Showing that whilst A has less orange than B, it contains 1.63 more of neutral tint, and 2.5 more of red, making it appear a very much deeper and redder colour.

The current New South Wales 1d. mauve adhesive.

	Neutral Tint or Black.	Violet.	Red.
A.—	4	4.3	4.5
B.—	17	1.63	1.6

In this case the proportions are fairly equal, the difference of colour being more a question of depth than any great preponderance of one component over another.

Ceylon 2 cent surcharged on 4 cent rose.

	Neutral Tint or Black.	Orange.	Red.
Unfaded	0	5	6.5
After exposure to light	0.5	1.35	2.3

The exposed specimen has gained .05 of neutral tint, 1.3 of orange, and lost 4.2 of red, changing from a brilliant pink to a colour akin to that which used to be known as "crushed strawberry."

Any of your readers desirous of further information on the subject will find a detailed description of the system in "Measurement of Light and Colour," to be obtained of the Tintometer Co., Ltd., 6, Farringdon Avenue, E.C.

I am, yours faithfully,

CATHARINE LOVIBOND.

Proposed New Zealand Stamp Speculation.

Major Evans has secured another sensation for the October Number of the *Monthly Journal*. In September it was the N.S.W. official swindle, and now it is a New Zealand Speculation. After the manner in which this Colony plastered the backs of its stamps with quack and other advertisements, one need not be so very much surprised at any shady shifts in the revenue direction. The new scheme, according to Major Evans, is one for advertising the Colony at the expense of stamp collectors.

The basis is, of course, a new issue of stamps of all the denominations now in use in the Colony, and no doubt as many more as it seems likely that collectors can be induced to buy. To protect this issue from the anathema of prejudiced persons, like the members of the S.S.S.S. it is not to be a temporary emission, but a permanent one, to continue in use, that is to say, until a similar occasion shall render it desirable to bring out another. The designs, we gather, are to be attractive, so that all the boys will want the stamps.

Of this new and attractive series, £20,000 worth is to be taken up by the schemers, who are to pay £15,000 in cash, and in return for the remaining £5,000 will undertake to run a lecture tour, with a first-class set of illustrations for the Colony, for twelve months throughout Great Britain, Canada, and America. The idea being, that the whole of the £5,000, and probably a considerable portion of the other £15,000, will come out of the pockets of collectors, and that the Post Office of New Zealand will not be called upon to do any work for it. A very pretty scheme on paper, but we have our doubts as to its working quite so well in practice. In the first place, £20,000 worth is a large stock of the stamps of one issue of a particular Colony. The present set of New Zealand stamps—including the 2s. and 5s.—amounts to about eleven shillings at face value—£20,000 would buy more than 36,000 sets. Of course, the number of sets might be reduced by the addition of higher values, but these would always be heavy stock, and the object of the schemers would be to realise as quickly as possible, before the interest upon the £15,000 swallowed up too much of the profits. Again, it must be remembered that the fact of this issue being dealt with in the way proposed will not lead to any increase whatever in the demand for unused impressions, and therefore every set sold by the promoters of the scheme means one set less purchased direct from the New Zealand Post Office; and if it be claimed that putting the stamps on sale in London, New York, etc., may facilitate the *écoulement*, we would suggest that, on the other hand, the whole scheme may prejudice collectors against unused copies of the stamps altogether; in which case the advertisement business would fail, a very large proportion of the stamps would return to the Colony to be used for postal purposes, and New Zealand would be added to the list of countries whose modern issues are out of fashion!

The gallant Major should have written another letter to the Colonial Secretary on this matter. Evidently the schemer is determined to checkmate the S.S.S.S. Still that Society may yet demonstrate the fact that there are many ways of putting an end to a dog's existence besides that of drowning it.

More Official Speculations.

The rap over the fingers which the Marquis of Ripon, when Colonial Secretary, gave to the Postal authorities in the Straits Settlements, seems already to have been forgotten, as witness the following from the *Monthly Journal*:—

Perak.—It appears that there has been great excitement over the issue (or non-issue, for it seems doubtful whether any copies actually reached the public) of the 2c. orange, which we chronicled in July. Perak is to have a new issue of stamps—indeed, the new stamps are no doubt in use by this time—but, fearing that the stock of 2c. rose, of the Tiger type, would be exhausted before the new stamps arrived, a further supply of that value was ordered, and the orange stamps were sent out. As a matter of fact, this supply turned out to be unnecessary, and the 2c. orange would probably never have been issued, had not a Government clerk, who had discovered its existence, applied for it at the Post-office. The new issue being on the spot, there was no danger of 2c. stamps running short, so the orange labels were put on sale, and the fun began, but it is said to have been confined mainly to Government officials, and others who were in the secret. It is stated that 54,000 were sold in a few hours, and it is rumoured that the sale was such a success that 100,000 more have been ordered from England! In any case, collectors need have no fear that the 2c. orange will be a rarity, or that it will not be obtainable at a very reasonable price, if they will exercise a little patience. Rumour has it that Government officials have large stocks of the 3c. black and rose on their hands also.

The Prices of English.

Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen has made a plunge in which I heartily wish him success. In issuing *The English Specialists' Journal* he is, I believe, the first to venture upon the hazardous undertaking of catering exclusively for a particular group of specialists. Commenting on the market prices for English Stamps, he says:—

Fine unused English stamps are fast becoming unattainable, as may be seen from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' new quotations: 4d. plate 10, of 1867, is valued at 60/-, but even at this figure, copies of this rare plate number are hard to obtain. The other 4d. plates are priced rather low, especially plate 7, which is seldom seen in fine condition. Of the sixpennies, plate 6, watermark emblems, has advanced to 80/-, and the same plate, watermark spray, in the extremely scarce bright violet shade of August and September, 1868, to 50/-.

Mr. Ewen would like to know how many *undoubted* copies of die three, of the 10d. red-brown, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons can supply at 10/- . The value of a fine copy, in his opinion, is nearer 100/- . If, after the expression of such an opinion, Mr. Ewen fails to get supplied with a baker's dozen at 10/-, he, of course, will only have himself to thank. Possibly the matter may be explained by the accidental omission of a few noughts.

A Paper for all Hobbyists.

Hobbies, "a weekly journal for amateurs of both sexes," is a new candidate for public favour. To attempt to cover the whole ground of "Hobbies" in one journal is a big order. Of course, stamps as the chiefest of hobbies, is duly represented, Mr. Percy C. Bishop being entrusted with the editing of that department. Fretwork, Photography, Bent Iron Work, and Mosaic-making are some other hobbies covered by this enterprising little journal, which, by the way, is published every Thursday by John Haddon & Co., of Salisbury Square, E.C.

Coelho at Philadelphia.

The following reference to Coelho in the *Weekly Philatelic Era* will surprise folks on this side:—

We still feel unwarranted in publishing the present name of the fraud Coelho, but hope to do so soon. In the meantime, we would caution our readers to be wary in their dealing with any recent addition to the ranks of Philadelphia stamp dealers. At last accounts he was located in that city, and during the past few days we have noticed his advertisement in two of our esteemed contemporaries.

They must indeed be estimable contemporaries that, by accepting his advertisements, help an imposter of the Coelho class to impose upon the collectors of Philadelphia. After the publicity that has been given to the exposure of Coelho in this country, and the publication of his portrait, it is difficult to believe that any journal in the United States can be ignorant of its responsibility. Anyway I am glad to learn that steps are being taken to remove any excuse on the score of ignorance.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

Class a—Superb condition, if *unused* with gum, (mint state), if *used*, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post-marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked *

The London Philatelic Company's Sale, Oct. 21st, 1895.

(Continued from page 38).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
a	Great Britain, 1d. red-brown on blue, small crown, perf. 14. block of 12 *	9 0 0
b	Hanover, 1ogr. green, fine, but no gum *	4 0 0
b	Lubeck, 2½sch. brown (error) *	2 4 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 3d. green	1 1 0
a	Nova Scotia, 6d. light green	1 10 0
b	Russia, 1k. orange, arms and inscription misplaced	2 4 0
b	St. Vincent, ¼d. dark blue, star	1 7 0
b	Switzerland, Zurich, 6r. horizontal *	3 5 0
b	Tolima, first issue, 5c., vert. laid *	1 18 0
a	United States (1868), 9oc. blue, grill	1 4 0
a	(1869), 24c., no grill, used	2 5 0
a	ditto, 9oc.	2 8 0
b	another	1 16 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, October 24th & 25th, 1895.

a	Antigua, 1d. red, imperf.	2 2 0
b	1/- purple	1 0 0
a	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf., pair *	2 17 6
b	4d. rose, no wmk., perf. 13 *	1 14 0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose	1 12 0
b	British Columbia, 10c., perf. 12½	2 0 0
b	50c. ditto	1 9 0
b	1 dollar, ditto	3 0 0
a	British Guiana (1851), 1c. magenta	5 0 0
b	ditto, 4c. deep blue, on piece	3 12 6
a	(1853), 1c. vermilion	1 14 0
a	ditto, ditto, deep shade	1 12 0
a	ditto, 4c. dark blue	1 10 0
b	(1860), 1c. red-brown *	1 6 0
a	96c. drab	1 4 0
a	Canada, 6d. purple-black, on laid	0 18 0
c	12d. black on laid, slightly torn into	27 0 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, 4d., woodblock, light blue,	£1 14s. od. and
b	1/- yellow-green, pair	1 0 0
a	1/- emerald *	1 15 0
b	Ceylon, 2d. emerald, CC. *	1 5 0
b	5d. brown, CC.	1 7 0
a	8d. mustard, perf.	4 0 0
a	9d. brown, perf. *	1 4 0
b	1/9 green, imperf. *	2 15 6
a	ditto, perf. *	3 7 0
b	5c. on 24c. purple-brown	1 18 0
a	8c. orange, 12½ x 14 *	0 18 0
b	Fiji, 2d. red, on 3d. (6c.) green, gothic V.R. ...	1 8 0
a	6d. (12c.) rose, plain V.R.	0 16 0
a	India, 4a. red and blue, pair with dividing line	1 12 0
a	2a. green *	2 18 0
a	Service, 2a. black and lilac	1 10 0
b	8a. green and lilac	4 4 0
a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. on bluish, early	11 0 0
a	another, medium early	5 5 0
b	a vert. pair, worn	2 10 0
a	ditto 2d blue, earliest, fine margins and gum, slightest thinning at one spot, but superb *	140 0 0
b	another, medium early	4 5 0
a	Small Fillet, 2d. blue, early	1 18 0
b	another	1 10 0
b	another, late	1 2 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
a & c	Mauritius, Large Fillet, 2d. blue, pair, one with corner just touched, grand margins, on piece	50 0 0
b	Greek Border, 1d. red	£1 12s. od. and
a	1d. light red	1 18 0
a	ditto, 2d. blue, a vert. pair	2 8 0
a	two others	£1 9s. od. and
b	Britannia, 4d. black and green	2 6 0
a	ditto, (4d.) green, block of 8 *	8 0 0
a	ditto, 1/- green, perf.	1 4 0
b	1/- green no wmk. *	1 7 0
a	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	3 10 0
c	another, fine, but thinned	3 12 6
a	1/- violet	18 10 0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. carmine-red, cut close	2 15 0
b	2d. orange *	1 5 0
a	4d. carmine-red	5 0 0
b	4d. orange *	4 0 0
b	6½d. carmine-red *	10 0 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1, on yellowish	1 8 0
a	another, on bluish	1 6 0
a	ditto, ditto, plate 2, no clouds variety	1 10 0
a	ditto, ditto, plate 2, a pair, on laid	3 10 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 1	3 7 6
b	ditto, ditto, plate 2, "crevit" omitted	2 17 6
a	another, circle through fan	3 5 0
a	two others	£2 6s. od. and
a	ditto, ditto, plate 4, on laid	2 2 0
b	another, on laid, no clouds	1 16 0
a	another, cobalt shade	2 6 0
a	ditto, 3d. green	1 7 0
a	ditto, 3d. emerald	1 15 0
b	Laureated, 1d. carmine on bluish *	3 3 0
a	ditto, a pair, one no leaves	2 12 6
b	ditto, 6d. brown, "Walls"	2 15 0
a	ditto, 8d. orange, no margins	1 16 0
a	Dialou, 5d. green, imperf. *	3 3 0
a	ditto, 8d. orange, imperf.	2 12 6
a	ditto, 2d. dark blue, pair *	1 10 0
a	2d. blue, no wmk., surfaced paper, pair *	1 5 0
a	5/- purple (map), wmk. 5/-	£1 10s. od. and
a	20 - blue, wmk. 5/- *	2 4 0
b	New Zealand, 1d. vermilion, pelure	1 6 0
a	1d. vermilion, star, imperf., pair *	1 16 0
a	1d. brown, no wmk. *	1 0 0
b	2d. vermilion, lozenges	2 0 0
b	2d. vermilion, N.Z. *	1 16 0
b	4d. rose *	1 10 0
b	6d. brown, star, imperf. *	1 0 0
a	1/- green, star, on bleuté	0 18 0
b	1/- green, star, imperf. *	1 10 0
b	1/- green, N.Z., imperf. *	1 12 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown	3 10 0
a	6d. yellow-green	1 12 0
a	1/- mauve fine	21 0 0
a	8½c. green *	1 5 0
a	Queensland, 6d. green, imperf., pair on piece	8 8 0
a	St. Lucia, ¼d. black and yellow, perf. 12 *	1 8 0
a	1/- black and orange	3 5 0
a	St. Vincent, ¼d. red on half 6d. yellow-green, pair *	2 2 0
a	1d. black on ditto	2 5 0
a	1d. drab *	3 0 0
a	4d. yellow *	3 5 0
a	4d. ultramarine, star *	3 10 0
a	4d. on 1/- vermilion	11 11 0
b	4d. dark blue, star, perf. about 11½ *	7 7 0
a	1/- blue *	5 10 0
a	1/- rose-red *	5 10 0
a	1/- ditto, perf. 11 x 14½	1 12 0
a	5/- rose-red, star *	16 0 0
a	South Australia, 1d. yellow-green, imperf.	1 1 0
a	1d. green, imperf., pair on piece	2 7 6
b	4d. purple, V. and Crown	2 0 0
a	1/- orange, imperf.	1 12 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.	
		£	s. d.
a	Tobago, 6d. ochre. CC. * ..	..	2 12 6
a	ditto, CA. * ..	..	13 13 0
a	Trinidad, 1d. blue, coarse litho ..	..	2 0 0
a	4d. lilac, imperf. * ..	..	1 1 0
a	6d. green, imperf. ..	..	1 10 0
a	5/- dull lake * ..	..	0 18 0
a	Turks Island, 2½d. on 1/- prune * ..	..	3 3 0
a	4d. on 1d. dull red ..	..	1 7 0
a	4d. (type 9) on 1/- prune * ..	..	3 5 0
b	Victoria, 2d. lilac, fine background, on piece ..	..	5 0 0
a	3d. claret, (beaded oval) * ..	..	1 3 0
b	5/- blue and yellow ..	..	4 0 0
a	"Too Late" ..	..	2 2 0
a	Virgin Islands, 4d. on 1/- ..	..	1 7 0
b	1/-, single line border * ..	..	3 3 0
a	Western Australia, 1d. black, roulette ..	..	2 2 0
a	2d. brown on red ..	..	6 0 0
a	1/- deep green, perf. 15-16 * ..	..	2 4 0

Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, October 28th, 1895.

a	British Guiana (1853), 4c. deep blue, on entire ..	..	1 5 0
a	Dominica, 1/- lake, perf. 14 ..	..	0 16 0
a	India, Service, 2a. black and lilac ..	..	2 10 0
a	Japan, 45sen. red * ..	each	0 13 0
a	Levant, 6k. blue * ..	..	1 6 0
b	Naples, 50gr. lake ..	..	1 10 0
b	Nevis, 1/- purple * ..	..	2 4 0
a	Portuguese Indies, 6r. black on 2oor. yellow, on entire ..	..	7 7 0
a	Samoa, 3d. red, block of 4 * ..	..	1 1 0
a	6d. deep violet, strip of 4 * ..	..	1 8 0
a	Saxony, 10gr. blue, 2 copies ..	..	1 4 0
b	South Australia, 1d. green, imperf., pair ..	..	2 0 0
a	Spain, 19 cuartos pink, black surcharge, "Habilitado por la Nacion" * ..	..	1 3 0
a	ditto, blue surcharge * ..	..	1 8 0
b	Tasmania, 4d. blue, large type, proof sheet (240) on cartridge ..	..	4 0 0
b	ditto, small type, ditto (120) ditto ..	..	3 15 0
a	Zululand, 5/- carmine * ..	..	3 3 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., October 30th & 31st, 1895.

a	Antigua, 1/- mauve ..	..	1 1 0
a	Bahamas, 1d. imperf. * ..	..	1 5 0
a	Brazil, 30oreis, sloping figures ..	..	1 18 0
a	British Columbia, 10c. blue and pink, perf. 14 * ..	..	4 5 0
b	British Guiana (1860), 1c. red-brown ..	..	1 7 0
b	Canada, 7½d. green, large margins..	..	3 5 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, 4d. dark blue, woodblock ..	..	5 10 0
a	Ceylon, 9d. dark brown, star, perf. * ..	..	1 4 0
a	Dominica, 1/- violet-rose, perf. 12½ * ..	..	1 4 0
b	France, 1fr. vermilion * ..	..	9 0 0
a	Great Britain, 3d. (current) on orange paper, block of 4 * ..	each block	0 13 0
a	2/- red-brown ..	..	2 2 0
a	Grenada, 1/- mauve, CA., hor. pair, £1 16s. od.; vert. pair ..	..	1 10 0
a	Heligoland, 5 marks, pair * ..	..	1 3 0
c	Naples, ½t. blue, cross, cut into, on piece ..	..	4 6 0
a	50gr. lake ..	..	2 8 0
a	another ..	..	2 16 0
a	Nevis, 4d. orange, engraved ..	..	1 4 0
a	4d. blue, CA. * ..	..	1 8 0
a	a pair, used ..	..	1 3 0
a	6d. green CA. * ..	..	10 0 0
a	6d. red-brown, CA. * ..	..	1 0 0
b	1/- yellow-green, engraved ..	..	5 0 0
a	Newfoundland, 6½d. carmine-red * ..	..	6 10 0
a	8d. ditto * ..	..	1 0 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., plate 3, on entire ..	..	1 9 0
a	Nova Scotia, 6d. green ..	..	1 7 0
b	1/- purple, no margins ..	..	10 0 0
a	Oldenburg, first issue, ½gr. * ..	..	1 10 0
a	Parma (1854), 5c. yellow * ..	..	4 15 0
a	Philippines, first issue, 5 cuartos orange ..	..	2 8 0
a	Russia, 30k. rose and green, wmk. 3 ..	..	1 5 0
b	St. Lucia (6d.) green, star ..	..	1 8 0
a	St. Vincent, 4d. blue, no wmk. ..	..	0 13 0
a	6d. green CA., perf. 12 * ..	..	1 16 0
a	1/- orange, ditto, ditto * ..	..	0 15 0
b	1/- brown * ..	..	4 10 0
b	another, used ..	..	1 4 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.	
		£	s. d.
b	Saxony, 3pf. red, small margins ..	..	4 5 0
b	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze ..	..	1 14 0
b	(1852), 6 reales blue, pair ..	..	2 2 0
a	Tobago, ½d. on 6d. orange * ..	..	0 16 0
a	6d. ochre, CC. ..	..	3 15 0
b	6d. ochre, CA. ..	..	14 0 0
a	Trinidad, 1d. dark blue, early litho., on entire ..	..	3 10 0
a	1d. light blue, ditto, ditto ..	..	3 5 0
a	6d. green, imperf. ..	..	1 7 0
b	United States (1851), 10c. green, imperf. * ..	..	1 12 0
a	(1856), 90c. blue * ..	..	3 0 0
b	(1869), 30c., block of 9 ..	..	5 5 0
a	(Columbus) 3 dollars, strip of 3 ..	..	2 8 0
a	ditto, 4 dollars, pair ..	..	2 2 0
a	Justice, 90c. purple * ..	..	6 10 0
b	Victoria, first issue, 1d. red * ..	..	1 5 0
a	ditto, 1d. rose * ..	..	1 10 0
a	ditto, 2d. lilac, coarse * ..	..	2 0 0
a	ditto, 3d. deep blue * ..	£1 1s. od., £1 6s. od. and	1 7 0
u	2d. brown, Queen on throne, engraved * ..	..	1 12 0
b	2d. red-lilac, ditto, litho. * ..	..	1 2 0
b	4d. rose, emblems, star, imperf. * ..	..	1 8 0
b	ditto, ditto, no wmk., block of 6 * ..	..	4 0 0
b	the same, block of 6, printed at back * ..	..	3 10 0
a	4d. rose, beaded oval * ..	..	1 5 0
u	a pair * ..	..	2 0 0
a	Virgin Islands, 4d. brown-rose ..	..	0 19 0
a	6d. rose, perf. 12 * ..	..	1 3 0
a	6d. purple, entire sheet (24) * ..	..	8 15 0
a	1/- crimson, single line border * ..	..	5 0 0
b	Western Australia, 6d. bronze, on piece ..	..	2 6 0
b	a pair, one with printing in corner defective, on piece ..	..	4 4 0
a	Wurtemberg, 6k. green, thread * ..	..	2 0 0
a	70k. lilac * ..	..	2 14 0
b	another, used ..	..	1 9 0
a	Zululand, 5/- black on rose * ..	..	3 0 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, November 4th & 5th, 1895.

a	Bavaria, 12k. lilac, perf. ..	..	0 19 0
a	British Guinea, 96c. drab ..	..	1 6 0
b	Canada, 6d. grey-violet ..	..	1 1 0
b	7½d. green ..	..	1 12 0
b	10d. blue ..	..	1 10 0
b	Cape of Good Hope, 4d. blue, wood block ..	..	2 6 0
a	another, lighter shade ..	..	2 2 0
b	5/- orange, CA. ..	..	0 11 0
a	Ceylon, 9d. brown, no wmk. ..	..	1 13 0
b	1/9 green, imperf. ..	..	2 0 0
b	Confederate States, Baton Rouge, 5c. * ..	..	3 0 0
a	France, 1fr., Empire * ..	..	1 0 0
a	Gambia, 1/- green * ..	..	1 12 0
a	Gibraltar, first issue, 1/- * ..	..	2 6 0
a	Great Britain, 10/-, anchor ..	..	0 17 0
a	£1, cross ..	..	1 10 0
b	£5, postmark ..	..	2 14 0
a	I.R. Official, 10/- blue ..	..	2 10 0
b	Greece, 10l., large figure at back, Paris * ..	..	0 15 0
a	Heligoland, 1 mark ..	..	0 15 0
a	India, 2a. green * ..	..	2 4 0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. orange, medium ..	..	1 16 0
b	Greek Border, 2d. blue ..	£0 18s. od. and	1 1 0
a	Monaco, first issue, 5fr. *	1 16 0

(To be continued.)

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.—Pages of Two Columns.

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One Inch	..	0	5 0	One Inch	..	0	3 6

TERMS:—Strictly Cash with Order.

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Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,

Literary, Fine Art and Philatelic Auctioneers,

47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,

WILL HOLD THEIR

NEXT * SALE * OF

RARE STAMPS

On Monday and Tuesday, November 25th and 26th, 1895.

THE CATALOGUE CAN BE HAD ON APPLICATION.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, 10th and 11th December, 1895,

Will be Offered the **MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION** formed by the late C. CAMPBELL, Esq.,

(By Order of the Executrix.)

Amongst other Rare Stamps will be found the following:—

Baden, 1st two issues, complete, unused with gum.
 Bahamas, 1d. imperf., a fine pair.
 British Columbia, 10cts., imperf. and perf., 12½, 25cts., a strip of 3.
 British Guiana, 1851, 1 and 4cts., the latter on entire—1853, 1ct., a fine pair—1856, 4ct. crimson, a superb copy on entire—1862, provisionals, 1 and 2cts., and others.
 British South Africa, pair on the £5, postally used.
 Brunswick, 1st issue, 35gr., unused.
 Canada, imperf., 6d. and 7½d., used, and 10d. unused—perf. 6d. and 3ct. brown, on laid paper.
 Cape, woodblock. 4d. blue, superb.
 Ceylon, 8d., 9d., 10d. and 1/-, and 1/9 imperf., and 2/- imperf., unused.
 France, 1st issue, a strip of 7 of 20cts. black, one stamp being *tête-bêche*, on entire.
 Gibraltar, 1st issue, complete, unused.
 Great Britain, V.R., 1d. black, a fine unused pair, 1/- oct., a block of 3, unused, with gum—£5, postally used, and I.R. official, £1.
 Hanover, 10 groschen, very fine.
 Mauritius, 1d. and 2d., post paid, very fine, and others.
 Nevis, a superb lot of the early issues, and 6d. green, C.A.
 Newfoundland, 6½d. carmine-vermilion, and 1/- orange, and others, a fine lot.

New South Wales, Sydney Views, a superb lot, including several pairs, and 5d. and 8d. square, imperf., etc.
 New Zealand, no wmk., 2d., rouletted, superb, and 1/-, serrated perf.
 Nova Scotia, 1d., 3d., 6d.
 New Brunswick, 1/- and 8½cts.
 Oldenburg, 1st issue, ½ and ¾th, unused, 2nd issue—¼ and 3 gros, unused—a fine strip of 5 of the 3 gros—3rd issue, ¼gr. moss green, and others.
 Queensland, 2d., imperf., etc.
 St. Lucia, C.A., 1/- orange.
 St. Vincent, a superb lot including 5/- star, used and unused—1d. on ¼ of 6d.—4d. on 1/-—4d. dark blue star, unused, and many others.
 Spain, 1866, 12cts., imperf., with reversed centre.
 Switzerland, Zurich, 4 and 6 rap.—Winterthur, 2½r.—Neuchatel, 5cts., etc.
 Tasmania, 1d. blue, unused, and 1d. star, unused.
 Trinidad, very fine lot of imperf. issues, superb lithographs on entires, etc., etc.
 United States, 1855, 90cts.—1868, 90cts., with grille—1869, complete—Columbus, complete, etc.
 Western Australia, 1st issue, complete, and others.
 Wurtemberg, 18kr. blue with thread, unused, and 70kr., very fine.

The above Catalogue is Illustrated, and can be had in advance, for posting to the United States.

OTHER CATALOGUES ARE IN PREPARATION.

Collections or Single Specimens of Rare Stamps received.

Liberal Advances, pending realization, if required.

FOR TERMS ADDRESS—

47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.

ESTABLISHED 1794.

Doings of Societies.

BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

SCARBOROUGH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.

NORTHAMPTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

No reports to hand on going to press.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE following new members have been enrolled: Mr. C. A. Cole, Ferndale, Colchester; Mr. G. R. Francis, Gordon Road, South Woodford; Mr. R. Harris, 24, Mountjoy Square, Dublin; Mr. S. S. George, Saham Toney, Watton. Three members have retired since May, 1895. The results of the Exchange packets are very satisfactory.

Owing to the ill-health of Mr. R. H. Thomas, secretary of the Globe Stamp Exchange Club, he has been obliged to discontinue that Society. The members of that Society are invited to join the Ashton-under-Lyne Exchange Club, which is conducted exactly on the same lines as the Globe Society.

With the November packet a new rule will come into operation, viz.: "Members having sheets enclosed in the packets shall first see the packets; after them, those members having no sheets enclosed will then see the packet."

A preliminary meeting was held at Messrs. Moss and Barker's office on Sept. 27th. Five members were present. It has been decided to hold a meeting on every third Wednesday in the month.—A. A. Grierson, Hon. Sec., Taunton Road, Ashton-under-Lyne.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Officers for Session 1895-96.

President—W. Denison Roebuck, F.R.S.

Vice-Presidents—W. B. Simpson, Eugene Egly.

Hon. Treasurer—Francis J. Kidson.

Hon. Librarian—J. W. Duffield.

Hon. Secretaries—T. K. Skipwith, John H. Thackrah.

Ex-Presidents—Oliver Firth, T. K. Skipwith.

At the last Annual Meeting of the Society the above-mentioned were elected as office-bearers for the coming Session, 1895-1896.

The Annual Report showed that the Society had enjoyed a busy and satisfactory year's progress during 1894-95. No less than eighteen meetings had been held, five being specially arranged ones not included in the printed programme. The papers read included discourses by Mr. Washington Fensdal, F.R.M.S., on his own personal experience: of the "Postal Administrations of India in 1856-1868;" by Mr. W. Barwell Turner, F.R.M.S., on "Philatelic Heraldry;" by Mr. J. F. C. Sieber, on "The Production of Stamps;" and descriptions of the Stamps of Victoria, United States (envelopes), Spain (Alfonso), Switzerland (Cantonal), and Great Britain (4d) by Messrs. Skipwith, Kidson, Roebuck, Egly and Thackrah respectively. There was an average attendance of about ten at the meetings, and numerous stamps and collections were exhibited at all of them. Towards the close of the Session a very successful and enjoyable social evening was spent by the members. The membership had increased slightly and now stood at 27. The 4th rule has been altered so as to permit of the election of Corresponding

Members, for which only philatelists are eligible who are neither resident nor engaged in regular business in the City; the subscription to be 2/6, including all the benefits of the Exchange Club. The Library of the Society has been augmented by a number of useful works, and has been well used by members. The Exchange Club has been carried on, first by Mr. A. W. Skipwith, and afterwards by his brother, Mr. W. K. Skipwith. Some changes in the Exchange Rules have been made, the principal one being to make all transactions at net prices. The report next referred to the very successful and interesting exhibition of Fiscal Stamps, held under the Society's auspices—and to the financial deficit it entailed upon the funds—and concluded with a reference to the heavy loss the Society has sustained by the removal of Mr. J. F. C. Sieber, lately one of the hon. secretaries, to Glasgow.

The report and balance sheet, read by Mr. Egly, were unanimously adopted, and votes of thanks to the President and Officers, as well as to the Leeds Free Library for the free tenancy of the meeting room, were passed. The question of the best night for meetings was then debated, and eventually it was decided to hold future meetings on the first Monday, at 7.30 p.m., and the third Saturday, at 6.30 p.m., in each month. The proceedings closed with the exhibition of numerous stamps, novelties and collections.

The opening meeting of the new session was held on Monday, Oct. 7th, when the chair was occupied by the President, Mr. W. Denison Roebuck, F.R.S., who, in his opening remarks, referred to the new Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, which was noteworthy in that it at least conformed to the generally expressed desire of collectors for a catalogue that should not only be portable, but with the illustrations given with the text, instead of an appendix. It was to be hoped that the next edition would show considerable improvement with regard to the printing and binding.

The exhibits were numerous, and among the novelties were the following:—The Rev. T. S. Fleming showed two shades of the new letter-card of New Zealand, 1½d., the back of which is occupied by views of picturesque scenery in the colony; Ceylonese wrappers, 2c. brown and 5c. red-brown; Cape of Good Hope, provisional and new issues of post-cards, and three values of the new adhesives for the Transvaal. Mr. Eugene Egly brought three values of the Peruvian provisionals, superimposing in black the head of the President on old issues, and a curiosity in the way of half of a current British penny stamp used as a halfpenny one, and sufficed to pass the lynxes of the letter-sorters. Mr. T. Kershaw Skipwith showed various stamps and letter-cards of Queensland, including the 1d. and 2d. adhesives on "beer-duty paper" (large Q and crown watermark), the 1d. on unwatermarked paper, with a "burelé" pattern printed on the back, the ½d., 1d. and 2d. of the new design with the Queen's head on a white ground on a normally watermarked paper, and also the ½d. of this design with the "burelé" pattern, all kindly sent by a correspondent in the colony, a native of this city.

At the meeting on Saturday, Oct. 19th, Mr. Eugene Egly presented forgeries of Argentine and Heligoland Stamps for the Society's "Black Book."

Mr. T. K. Skipwith then completed his account of the complicated issues of Victoria, by describing the twelfth and all subsequent types, to the present time. A hearty vote of thanks was passed, on the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. John H. Thackrah.

All communications should be addressed to

the Hon. Secretaries, T. K. Skipwith, 13, Victoria Road, Hyde Park, Leeds; John H. Thackrah, 54, St. Michael's Road, Headingley, Leeds.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Session 1895-6.

President—A. R. Barrett.

Vice-President—R. Tyeth Stevens.

Exchange Secretary—H. Tucker, Jun.

Assistant Exchange Secretary—E. Millman.

Treasurer and Hon. Secretary—A. Levy.

Committee—J. Milton, E. Millman, W. E. Harvey, W. J. W. Miller.

THE first ordinary meeting was held at 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, Oct. 23rd. Votes of thanks were passed to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and L'Estrange Ewen, for copies of Priced Catalogues presented to the Society, and to the Birmingham Philatelic Society for their Annual Report.

Mr. Tucker notified that through pressure of other duties he would be unable to carry out the requirements of the Exchange Branch for the ensuing few months, Mr. E. Millman (26, Granville Road, S. Plymouth), was unanimously elected Assistant Exchange Secretary, to whom corresponding members and others are requested to send communications referring to the Exchange Branch until further notice.

The following members promised to read papers during the session: The Vice-President, "Three Weeks Stamp Hunting on the Continent;" Capt. Stockdale, "Ceylon and Spain;" Mr. Miller, "Greece;" The Hon. Secretary, "West Indies." Messrs. Milton and Mayne also promised to assist. Displays of the stamps, illustrating the subject of the papers, will be held on the evenings they are read.

It was resolved to join the Stamp Exchange Protection Society.—Asher Levy, Hon. Sec., 190, Union Street, Plymouth.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE usual ordinary meeting of this Society was held at the Blackfriars Hotel, Manchester, on Friday, October 25th. Mr. G. B. Duerst read a highly interesting paper on "The Stamps of Alsace Lorraine." The stamps (Mr. Duerst stated) began to appear in September, 1870, and finally seven values were issued, ranging from one to twenty-five centimes. The design was set up in type 150 times repeated (the number of stamps on each sheet), and then stereotyped. A covering of copper was then deposited on the soft metal to help it to wear, and from this the stamps were printed in colours, on a ground of coloured network. There exist three forgeries of these stamps, one made in Paris, one made in Belgium, and lastly the so-called "official reprints" printed in Berlin.

PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 2d. for every six words. — Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

EXCHANGE SOCIETY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS. THE LARGEST AND BEST STAMP EXCHANGE IN EXISTENCE, CONDUCTED ON RULES OF EXCHANGE (PURE AND SIMPLE). Subscription, 1/- per annum. Nearly 200 Members. Full particulars, and all information necessary for New Members, will be sent free on application to The Secretary, Mr. C. FORBES, Hon. Librarian, City of London Philatelic Club, 48, Strahan Road, London, E. Foreign correspondence desired with Dealers and Collectors. [12

TO COLLECTORS.—Wanted Rare Stamps to complete Countries.—J. KNASTER, Cambridge. [7]

BRIGHT'S catalogue, 1/6 postal order, prepaid. If acknowledgment required, kindly enclose post-card.—**HOMEWOOD**, Chichester. [4]

80 VARIETIES, including British South Africa, San Marino, Congo, Puttialia, Gibraltar, Straits Settlements, Martinique, Bulgaria, Mexico, Deccan, Spain, Transvaal, Malta, United States (Columbus), Mauritius, Finland, Greece, Argentine, Venezuela, Japan, Egypt, Roumania, &c., 1/1 Post Free.—**DEW**, Shirley Gardens, Hanwell, London, W. [3]

250 VARIETIES, 1/3 Post Free. No Duplicates. Catalogued £1.—**H. COOPE**, 66, Minet Avenue, Willesden, London. [3]

80 VARIETIES, including Persia, Travancore, Cape Verde, Venezuela, Azores, Ecuador, Siam, 4d.—**COOPE**, 66, Minet Avenue, Willesden, London. [3]

BREAKING Collections. Rare and Medium Duplicates. Approval. References.—**RICHARDS**, Cornhill, Melton Mowbray. [3]

AUSTRALASIA, 50 all different, including O.S. 2/1 Free.—**RICHARDS**, Cornhill, Melton Mowbray. [3]

TO COLLECTORS.—Wanted—English, Gambia, Gold Coast, Lagos, Sierra Leone, Western Australia, unused preferred—**F. BRADBURY**, 3, India Buildings, Liverpool. [3]

ENGLISH Embossed Envelopes silk threads, 6 dozen mixed sizes. Penny Reds 1/3 per 1000. Offer wanted for 1000 or 2000 Postcards, foreign. Maltese Cross numbers in centre 5/3 set. Ivory heads 4 pence each. 50 stamps all different and genuine, 1d. Current English mixed 10,000, 3/4. Postage extra always.—**SANTOS COV.**, 35, Alwyne Villas, Canbury, London. [3]

WANTED—To Buy or Exchange. Philatelic Literature, price 1893.—**VICTOR SUPPANTSCHITSCH**, Graz, Austria. [3]

GRATIS—6 used Japan. Agents wanted to sell from Sheets. **EDWARD ROHRKTS**, 7, Cathcart Terrace, Rookwood Road, Nottingham. [3]

WANTED.—A Collection of Stamps.—**MISS ROBERT HORTON**, 153a, Clapham Road, S.W. [3]

MAGNIFICENT Stamp Album and some Rare Stamps. No common. All for 3/6 Post Free. First sending P.O. gets it, to **GEORGE PAYNE**, 47, Parkfield Road, Liverpool. [3]

CATALOGUE of Stamps for Sale sent on receipt of 2d.—**MARKENHANS** of the Colony of Home and Foreign Missions, Bethel, near Bielefeld, Germany. [2]

TO English Specialists.—Offer Wanted for Two Unused English Letter Sheets, Dickinson paper, Die I., on bluish, undated; perfect condition.—Apply **W. CARTWRIGHT**, 12, East Grove, Ashley Road, Bristol. [3]

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SHEETS AND BOOKS of British, Foreign, and Colonial Stamps Sent on Approval. Prices moderate. Quality, from cheap to medium. Buy, Sale, or Exchange. Correspondence in English only.—**JOHN JOHNSTON**, Moss-Side, New Deer, Aberdeenshire, Scotland. [4]

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50 AFRICAN STAMPS.—Madeira, Rare Natal, Reunion, Transvaal, Orange, Congo, Mauritius, Tunis, Madagascar, 1/-.—**STANLEY JOHNSON**, 164, Grove Row, Bow. [3]

BARBADOS, 1871, blue, wmk. large star, lightly postmarked, 10/-; Brunswick, 1852, 1862, 10/-; Alsace, 2c., net inverted, "Relais," postmark, 18/6; United States, 5c. mustard, fine, but perf. slightly clipped, 10/-; Lahuan, 1892, engraved (Queen's Head), good specimens, complete, 10/-.—Postage extra. 500 Different Stamps, 6/-.—**PHILATELIST**, 95, Coningham Road, Shepherds Bush. [3]

CHEAP English Penny Red, unassorted, 1 3 per 100, 10,000, 7/6; 4d. lake, 1870, 3/- per 100; 2 1/2d. blue, 1880, 3/6 100; 2d. blue, set of 7, 1/6, 12 sets, 12/-; 2 1/2d. blue, set of 7, 1/3, 12 sets, 10/-; 4d. orange, set of 10, 2/9.—**C. NISSEN**, 279, Brunswick Buildings, Aldgate, E. [3]

GREENADA, 1/-, current issue, WANTED, used or unused: Apply: **COLLECTOR**, 2, Amhurst Park, N. Reference: **Hickes Ltd.** [3]

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50 DIFFERENT Plate Numbers, 1d. red, 1/6 post free; 10 different 1d.—**N. Mrs. Thomas**, Penpol Terrace, Hayle. [3]

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18 COLUMBUS Issue, United States Given Away Free to Genuine Collectors applying for Approval Sheets and sending 1d. stamp for postage. References or deposit required from persons unknown to me.—**F. WOOD**, 9, Hoxton Street, London, N. [3]

50 BETTER Varieties—Niger Coast, protectorate; Siam (provisionally); Turks Island; United States, Official; Old Spanish; Salvador; Costa Rica; Luxemburg (1895); Sweden, Official; Serbia, Argentine; Mauritius; Puerto Rico; Queensland, &c. price 9d.—**PENDLEBURY**, Fernhill Road, Bootle, Liverpool. [3]

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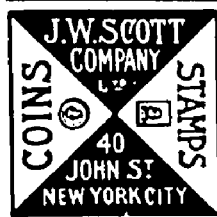
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 [21]

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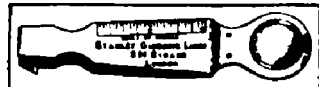
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No. 31.—No. 5.—Vol. II. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1895. ONE PENNY.

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OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

WARRINGTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

NOTTINGHAM & DISTRICT SOCIETY.

No reports to hand on going to press.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. T. Wilson, Esq.

Vice-Presidents—R. Hollick, Esq., and W. Pimm, Esq.

Committee—Mr. V. Lundeblad, Mr. C. A. Stephenson, Mr. W. S. Vaughton, and Mr. W. F. Wadams.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., official address, 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

OCT. 17th—*Presidential Address*. Messrs. F. G. Bepler (London), E. C. Cooks (Acock's Green), and W. R. Joynt (Dublin) were unanimously elected members.

Mr. W. T. Wilson then gave a most interesting and instructive paper on "Fashionable Stamps." After enumerating the various stamps at present in fashion, commencing with the West Indies, he proceeded to give the results of this fashion, specially noting the undue appreciation of the later issues, the rise in prices being caused more by speculators than by collectors. The special instances were all supported by the actual number printed, left on hand, &c. The whole paper was a valuable lesson to all who were present.

Nov. 7—*Display*. Western Australia. The following were unanimously elected members:—Messrs. P. Kiderlen (Wurtemberg), H. E. M. Rolsted (Norway), A. Levy (Plymouth), R. Sneeth (Sheffield), C. G. Taylor (Yarmouth), T. P. Dorman (Northampton), Pio Fabri (Rome), F. Hagen (Sydney), W. W. Worthington (New York), A. S. Weiler (Zaneville, U.S.A.), Max de Troostembergh (Brussels). Two applications were refused.

Subscriptions were voted to a number of philatelic works and periodicals for the Library. Then followed the display which was quite up to usual form. The chief interest was centred in the exceedingly fine selection shown by the President, which, with the exception of one stamp, included two complete panes of sixty of the first issue, 4d. The differences in the position and type of corresponding stamps on the two panes indicating alterations in the transfers were carefully noted. Excepting the errors of colour and the inverted centre, all varieties, including the roulettes, were shown in good numbers by the President and other members.

The November packet was again a "record," the value being £616 7s. 4½d., although the prices were in almost every case in favour of purchasers.

EDINBURGH AND LEITH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE annual general business meeting of the above Society was held at Elder's Hotel, St. David's Street, Edinburgh, on Monday, Nov. 11th, 1895. Mr. W. Fish in the chair. Mr. A. Schnepel was re-elected President, Mr.

Fish, Vice-President, Mr. Siems, Treasurer, and Mr. Hush, Secretary. The President, in his address, said that though the Society was improving, he would like to see it still more so. At the beginning of the year the Society numbered 11 members, at the year's close we have 14 members, and several names are lying on the table. During the year an exchange packet has been instituted, and four packets have circulated. Each member receives a paper regularly by post, and many philatelists in the district who are not members are glad to help young philatelists and beginners.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—W. Denison Roebuck, F.L.S.

THE second meeting of the Session was held at the Municipal Buildings, Leeds, on Saturday, Oct. 19th. Mr. Eugene Eglv, Vice-President, took the chair. A large number of donations were acknowledged, and several novelties shown. Mr. Herbert Hepworth was elected a member. Mr. T. K. Skipwith then gave the fourth and concluding instalment of his description of the "Stamps of Victoria," illustrated by his collection, which was almost complete in the series under consideration.

The third meeting of the Session was held on Monday, Nov. 4th, Mr. F. J. Kidson, Hon. Treasurer, took the chair. Novelties were shown by Mr. J. W. Duffield. In the absence of the President, who by reason of a severe cold was unable to give his paper, Mr. T. Skipwith described the stamps of the Laureated issue of New South Wales, his own collection (including many on original envelopes), and those of Messrs J. H. Thackrah and S. E. Nixon being shown in illustration.

Hon. Secretaries—T. K. Skipwith, Hyde Park, Leeds, and J. H. Thackrah, 54, St. Michael's Road, Leeds.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

THE second meeting of this Society for 1895-96, was held on the 14th inst., when a fair number of members turned up to hear a paper read by the Hon. Secretary on "The Advantages of Stamp Collecting," at the end of which a hearty vote of thanks was passed for same. At the next meeting, on the 28th inst., a paper on "English Stamps" was promised by the Vice-President. The Secretary has pleasure in stating that Members, besides having increased, are getting more interested in the hobby, and a thoroughly successful season is anticipated. E. Heginbottom, B.A., Hon. Sec., Woodfield, Rochdale.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President—Mr. Vernon Roberts.

THE inaugural Meeting of the fifth Session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel on Friday, Sept. 27th, the President in the chair. There was a large gathering of members and visitors. In a short address, the President said the Society was again indebted to the kindness of Mr. T. Ridpath, for the preparation of the Photographic slides to be shown at the third lantern exhibition. In referring to the Syllabus, the Chairman drew attention to the fact, that the Society's meeting would be held every Friday during the Session, the alternate nights being devoted to the exhibition of Stamps and discussions. It was also announced that the Rules of the new Stamp Exchange for Members, were printed, and the first packet would start on Oct. 1st.

The exhibition was followed with close interest by all present. The only regret expressed being, that it was impossible to carry away all the information given.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Ridpath for his valuable services.

The second ordinary meeting of the Session was held on October 11th, at the Blackfriars Hotel. The Senior Vice-President in the Chair. Messrs. A. S. Sullivan, W. Speidel and J. J. Darlow were elected members of the Society. Mr. W. D. Beckton read a paper on the "Stamps of Queensland." Introducing his subject with a brief, but interesting, geographical, historical, industrial and political sketch of the country. All the various issues up to 1891, with their varieties of perforation, watermarks, &c., were fully described and illustrated seriatim. In connection with the lithographed issue of 1866, value 4d. and 5 shillings, Mr. Beckton said that after careful consideration he was quite convinced that for the 4d. stamp a lithographed transfer had been taken from the 3d. engraved plate, the word "three" having been erased and "four" inserted by hand after the transfer was made. This would account for the word "four" varying so much in size, shape and position (at least eight stamps with strongly marked differences were exhibited by the essayist). In further confirmation, several of the stamps show decided traces of parts of the word "three." The enlargement of these stamps with the lantern, at the opening meeting, shewed these remains very clearly. The five shilling value had been evidently prepared in the same manner from the one shilling engraved plate, the "one" being altered to "five," and the letter S inserted after shilling. The same marked differences exist in the value, particularly in the added letter S.—William W. Munn, Hon. Sec., Ashfield, Peel Causeway, Nr. Altrincham.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE second monthly meeting for this Session was held on Tuesday evening, Nov. 12th. There were ten members present, Mr. Wm. Gray occupying the chair. After the election of new members and other formal business had been transacted, Mr. H. W. Atkinson read a paper on "The Stamps of the Argentine Republic." The subject was dealt with by Mr. Atkinson in a very interesting and instructive manner, and the paper was much appreciated by the members present. Mr. Atkinson illustrated his remarks with a good collection of Argentine stamps, and Messrs. Gray, Scott, Skipwith, and others, also produced their collections for reference and comparison. The next meeting of the Society will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 3rd.—W. H. Scott, Hon. Sec., 1, Piccadilly, Bradford.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of the above Society was held on Wednesday evening, Nov. 6th, in the Central Café, High Street, Sheffield. Mr. G. H. Hunt occupied the chair. Eight other members were present.

Resolution—Proposed by Mr. R. Sneeth, seconded by Mr. Chapman, and carried, "That any dealers or others (either in England or abroad) desirous of sending sheets of stamps for sale or exchange with our Society, shall, in the first instance, be proposed as members, and if elected they must conform to the rules of the Society."

New Members elected—L. Risigari, Mannheim, and Mr. H. Hawley, Sheffield. Proposed—Mr. A. Weisz, London.

After the official business, an amusing paper, entitled "The Existence of a Stamp Collector," was read by Mr. Abenheimer. Subject for discussion at our next meeting, "Speculative Stamps." All members are particularly requested to attend.—ROBERT SNEATH, Hon. Sec., 166, Devonshire Street, Sheffield.

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THE STAMP COLLECTORS

PORTNIGHTLY.

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,
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With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."
 CONDUCTED BY
HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:
 The Liverpool Philatelic Society. The City of London Philatelic Club. Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
 The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. Rochdale Philatelic Society. Sheffield Philatelic Society.
 Stamp Exchange Protection Society. Cambridge Philatelic Society.

No. 31.—No. 5.—Vol. II. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1895. ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	51
Gossip of the Hour	52
Philately at Home	52
Philatelic Events	53
Forgers and their Work	53
Hilckes' Enquiry Bureau Announcements	54
City of London Philatelic Club	55
Between Ourselves	56
Some Personal Remarks	56
Sale of St. Helena Stamps	57
Philately Abroad	57
Under Bennett's Clock	58
Our Forum	58
Our Review of Reviews	59
Auction Supplement	61

Association at the end of the current year. This is perhaps as well, for there has been an amount of heartburning over the recent squabbles in American philatelic politics quite painful to witness. Nor can it be honestly said that Mr. Tiffany has played the most dignified part in the strife. It is significant that his address at the A.P.A. convention was suppressed by Messrs. Mekeel, the publishers of the official organ, on the ground of "the bad light it would throw on certain persons and methods."

Mr. C. P. KRAUTH is put forward by *Mekeel's Weekly* as a likely man to succeed Tiffany, but probably Mr. Aloah Davison (to whom an effusive apology is made in the same issue for certain unfounded remarks) will again stand.

Should Mr. Davison, however, elect to keep well out of all the disgraceful wirepulling that has lately characterised philately in the States, Mr. Krauth would be about the next best man for the philatelic chair. He is a practical philatelist every inch, and a tireless worker. The rapidity with which he has come to the front of the philatelic ranks makes us wonder what can have kept such a good philatelist so long in obscurity.

We are indebted to Mr. A. Weisz, for the following information: With reference to the note re the collection of Stambuloff, I beg to inform you that I have become aware from a very reliable source that the said collection has been sold at a ridiculously low price (1,300 florins) to a collector of Budapest, who resold it to another collector for the amount of 1,900 florins. In my opinion, the collection represented is of far more value than that; and it can only be due to a lack of appreciation, or partly to pecuniary considerations, that the collection has been thrown away at such a ridiculous price.

* * *

THE startling news is wafted Cheapsideways, that the stamp dealers in the Strand district, encouraged doubtless by the prodigious success of the P.P.A., are going to form a sort of local Protection Society for the Strand only. Full details have not yet reached us, and we are in ignorance as to whether they intend to protect themselves against collectors, protect collectors against themselves, or merely protect their own pockets.



PHILATELIC PERSONALITIES

WE tender our respectful sympathy to worthy Mons. Bossakiewicz, editor and proprietor of *Le Courier des Timbres Poste*. In the review columns of that estimable publication we find a certain personality which was "writ sarcastic" for the *PORTNIGHTLY* is reprinted *in grand sérieux*. Thus, French readers are informed that Lord Salisbury specialises in Transvaal; that Mr. Balfour is a "generalist"; that Mr. Chamberlain has "Swopped" all his orchids to Mr. Whitfield King for rare stamps! In the course of time, some ingenious pressman will translate this into English and it will be sent the round of the English newspapers by the cable agencies. And then the American Stamp papers will scissor it, and—oh scissors! what have we done? what have we done?

Mr. JOHN K. TIFFANY has expressed a determination to retire from the Presidency of the American Philatelic



BY ALFRED JINGLE.

THE Philatelic Society of London is itself once more. After three years' labour it has been safely delivered of Part I. of its Historical Catalogue of the Postal Issues of the British Colonies of Africa. It should have been a case of twins; but Part II. may be expected to follow in due course—so they say.

Another series of Anethemas is in process of manufacture by the secretary of the S.S.S.S. Instead of milk-and-water-advice, not to collect or deal in the condemned rubbish, why not ask our own J.P. to pitch it hot.

We are all anxious to know how Mr. Joe Crook, of "N.S.W. Swindle" fame, feels after the manner in which his jacket has been dusted. I have written to ask him, but I am afraid he won't reply.

And I am wondering also whether the Major has been invited to discuss his letter thereon to the Colonial Secretary, with cigars and orchids, at the Colonial office. There ought to be some result from all the vigorous swearing that has been done over that business—otherwise, what's the use of swearing?

That letter from Mr. C. J. Phillips to Mr. Albrecht explaining the true inwardness of the many blanks in pricing in Gibbons' Catalogue, published in the last issue of the "S.C.F.," is an eye-opener; but what shall be said of the publication of an obviously private letter?

Now, talking about the pricing of Stamps, if Senf prices certain stamps low for the purpose of buying them cheap, as asserted by Mr. C. J. Phillips; and if Stanley Gibbons omits prices for the self-same purpose, and if Moens' catalogue, as stated by Mr. C. J. Phillips, is no use in the matter of market prices, where are we as to prices?

It seems to me that we are confined in our choice to the Scott Stamp and Coin Co.'s Catalogue and the auctions. And, for my part, after the little exposures to which we have been treated I say unhesitatingly that a good stretch of averages in auction prices will undoubtedly be the dominant and accepted market price in the near future.

Confidence has, rightly or wrongly, been totally destroyed in at least two of the leading catalogues. Hence I for one shall welcome yours or any other carefully done analysis of auction prices and if a good analysis is not forthcoming I will do it myself.

Mr. Ehrenbach is said to be specialising Norway. So far as I am aware there has been no previous specialising of this country by a leading English collector. Ergo, we may expect to hear of hitherto unnoticed varieties in the earlier issues, for when a specialist of the Ehrenbach type and pocket fixes his eyes on an early issue it is sure to yield up its secrets in pairs and blocks, and even sheets.

What has become of the Dealers Society which set up a back door for the admission of collectors? Has it disappeared, *holus bolus*, through that same back door?

Brown: I say Jones, you know all letters going into Russia will have to be opened?

Jones: Nonsense!

Brown: Of course they will have to be opened—how will the addressees read them otherwise?

Disgust of Jones—Curtain.



MR. MORLEY'S COLONIAL REVENUE CATALOGUE.

WE have nothing but praise for Mr. Walter Morley's "Catalogue and Price List of the Revenue Stamps of the British Colonies," just published at 2/6. The get-up is not perhaps in the highest art, but the book is portable and clearly printed. Did we know more about Colonial Revenue we might possibly find here and there a chance for fault-finding; but the fact that we are in almost absolute ignorance with regard to these stamps disarms us. On the other hand we know Mr. Morley as a painstaking specialist in these stamps, and have not the slightest doubt that the book is of the greatest value to fiscal specialists.

OURSELVES AND THE SMALL DEALERS.

A PARAGRAPH in an insignificant monthly contemporary, which we shall be charitable enough not to mention by name, concerns itself with Messrs. Hilckes' recently established Enquiry Bureau, and with a so-called "attack" upon small dealers by the FORTNIGHTLY. That "attack," which was no attack at all, we explained to the satisfaction of all our readers. But we do not propose to allow the irresponsible statements of our pigny contemporary to pass without contradiction. The "par" we allude to is somewhat ingeniously constructed, but it is a transparent falsehood—or, in journalistic slang, "fake," pure and simple, especially simple. We challenge our contemporary to show the letters it claims to have received from small dealers. We do not believe it has received one such letter; for we doubt whether any small dealers in London is "small" enough to write to an insignificant sheet like the contemporary alluded to, for the purpose of libelling a more successful firm. There is a lie in every line of our contemporary's paragraph, and that is too much for good digestion, to say nothing of good journalism.

HAVE YOU MET THIS MAN?

WE have pleasure in acceding to a request that we should publish the description of a man who goes about defrauding people with forged Sidney Views, Surcharged Western Australias and British Bechuanalands, etc:—

A man of middle height, well set, reddish moustache and beard, face stoutish and flushed cheeks, wears glasses and always trembles; age about 40, always wears a long coat of a dark brown colour.

BRIGHT'S "A.B.C." CATALOGUE.

MESSRS. BRIGHT & SON wish us to state that owing to the immense amount of labour involved in the production of their "A.B.C." Catalogue they find it impossible to publish until January, in which month copies will be delivered at the earliest possible moment.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR CAMBRIDGE.

CAMBRIDGE has its philatelic society now, and, indeed, the wonder is that Cambridge has been so long without it! The society, we have just been told, has accepted with thanks our offer to act as official organ. (See report.)

"MULREADY'S" TWO PLATES?

There was an old wise man of — Persia, we think, or thereabouts, whose motto was "That everything had happened before;" his name, we think, was Ben Akiba. Anyhow, if that wise gentleman lived to-day and was a philatelist, I wonder what he would say to the following:—

Writes some German philatelist to the *I.B.Z.*, that he had found out that two plates of the Mulreadys had been used, one for the envelopes and one for the wrappers. In the first place he gives the following sizes:—

Envelope: 130+84mm.

Wrapper: 133+84mm.

He also gives 4 or 5 measurements which show proportionate

You cannot afford to do without the "S.C.F."

discrepancies from left to right or vice versa, but *in no case from top to bottom*. Now, it appears to us that it is quite likely that in constructing the plates the transfer paper, and we believe that such was used, was stretched from left to right, and *not stretched* from top to bottom, naturally the extra 3 mm. must be divided equally all over the design. We have never heard that two plates of different sizes were constructed, and we believe we have here to do with a mare's nest of similar magnitude, as in the case of the Ecuador stamps issue, when Mr. Moens proved every oval on the plate to be of different size, which after all only resulted from the transfer of the die on the stone.

AN ECHO FROM BOSTON.

Says the Boston Correspondent of the *Weekly Philatelic Era*:—"It is a matter of comment among Boston collectors, that a large English firm, who recently issued a pretentious catalogue, pricing therein the 1 shilling Nova Scotia at \$85—, recently sent two copies to Boston parties at \$140.00 *apiece nett*."—Name, please!

"ERRORS" BY THE SHEET.

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING & Co., Ipswich, write: "Errors in the case of local surcharges are of only too frequent occurrence, but when the surcharging is done in London by De La Rue & Co., how often is any mistake found. We have just discovered an amazing error perpetrated by this firm, consisting of a quarter sheet of sixty stamps of Straits Settlements, 32c. *rose*, which were specially printed in order to be surcharged three cents, but the sixty stamps in question have no surcharge whatever upon them, the machines having missed this quarter sheet altogether. The remaining three panes of sixty each were all properly surcharged "three cents," and one of these panes is still attached to the unsurcharged pane, making half a sheet of 120 stamps, sixty of 3c. and sixty of 32c. It is surprising that such an error should escape the notice of the many persons through whose hands the stamps had to pass."

ANOTHER AUCTIONEER.

MR. THEODOR BUHL, of Bull & Co., Limited, of 11, Queen Victoria Street, E.C., will shortly join the brotherhood of the hammer. His first public sale is advertised for December 7th. at 2 p.m. precisely, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.

PHILATELIC ERRAND BOY IN COURT.

EDWARD W. NEAL, fifteen, of Clarendon Gardens, Maida Hill, was before the Marylebone magistrate on Wednesday last, charged with having stolen a collection of stamps worth £100, belonging to John Edward Kerner, bootmaker, of Edgware Road. The lad had been in the employ of the prosecutor for about six weeks. An advertisement appeared in an evening newspaper offering a good price for certain stamps. Mr. Kerner unlocked his desk to examine his collection and discovered that the stamps had been stolen. Detective Holder traced the album to the prisoner's home, and after some denial and hesitation the lad admitted his guilt. The magistrate, on the strength of the boy's previous good character, allowed the court missionary to be bound over in 40/- to bring the lad up for judgment if called upon.

A LIVERPOOL DEALER SUES AN EMPLOYEE.

RECENTLY, at the Liverpool County Court, before his Honour Judge Collier, an action was heard in which John Dodman, a dealer in foreign stamps, claimed damages from a Mr. Ross for alleged wilful destruction of property by a daughter of the defendant. Plaintiff stated that Miss Ross, a girl of sixteen, had been employed by him as a sorter of stamps, her wages being 2s. 6d. a week. A number of stamps were torn by the girl, and thus made defective; and he alleged that this was done wilfully and not accidentally. Judge Collier said that a man was not *prima facie* liable for injury done by his child. Unless there were special circumstances in the case there was no liability on the father. Supposing what the plaintiff said was correct, there was no liability on the part of Mr. Ross, unless special circumstances could in some way be shown. One might sue an infant for this, for infancy was no answer to a plea for injury. In the present case there must be a non-suit. The defendant desired to

make an explanation. The Judge said that under the circumstances he was not called upon to do so.

"DOGBERRY" ON PHILATELIC ETHICS.

"DOGBERRY," of the *City Press*, rarely allows his philatelic leanings to peep out from his brightly written "Notes," in that organ of civic dignity, but when he does—he *does*. "It is amusing (he writes) to note the wave of virtuous indignation which is just now passing over the philatelic journals and the stamp dealers of the metropolis—I refer to their attitude in regard to the postage stamps now termed "unnecessary issues," to suppress which objectionable productions a special society has recently been formed. It is amusing, I remark, because one has only to look back to the publications and catalogues of these good people to find that things were not always thus." Even so, good Dogberry! even so, neighbour!

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING DEC. 14th.

Auction Sales.

- Dec. 2nd.—Mr. W. Hadlow, at the Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, W.C., at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Dec. 4th & 5th.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co. at the Arbitration Room, 63-4, Chancery Lane, E.C., at 6 p.m. each day.
- Dec. 7th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 2 p.m. precisely.
- Dec. 9th.—Mr. W. Hadlow, at the Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, W.C., at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Dec. 10th and 11th.—Messrs. Pattick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W., at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Dec. 12th & 13th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Hall, Charing Cross, at 5 p.m. each day.

City of London Club.

Fortnightly Meetings at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, E.C., every Monday following publication of "S.C.F.", at 7.30 p.m.



BY HARRY HILCKES.

HELICOLAND. 5sh.

BY courtesy of the editorial committee of the *Vert. Korresp. Blatt*, the German terror of wrong doers in the stamp world, I am enabled to publish any forgery with illustrations which may appear in the columns of this excellent journal. From a recent number of same I therefore take the following description of the above-mentioned stamps:—



GENUINE



FORGERY.

The shape of the central figure is quite different from the original; the St. and Mk. have a somewhat "swelled" appearance, whereas in the original they seem to be inclined

We hardly think so.

to consumption. The chief difference, to my mind, which is not mentioned in the German authority, is distance between the border line and the word Heligoland. The forgery shows much the smaller space, partly because the separate letters are too large, partly because the space provided for the word between scroll and bottom line is not sufficient. I may also add that the shape of the crown is a totally different one. No doubt this stamp will soon make its appearance with a forged postmark.

It appears from later information that the above 5-mark forgery was made of the facsimile stamps which were sent out as a gratis supplement to Messrs. Senf's *I.B.Z.*, July, 86. The word "Facsimile" was carefully removed by means of acids, the stamps then perforated and—there you are.

GERMAN EMPIRE, 1875, 2 MARK.

This stamp is frequently offered, *unused, without gum*. I must strongly warn readers against them. They are offered by a firm in Geneva, and are of such a washy appearance that this alone should convict them. Besides, it is a fact that these stamps *were never sold at any German Post Office*: they were simply affixed to the letters by the official and there and then penmarked. Only quite recently have they been post-marked. The above washy specimens are simply cleaned, which, in this case, is not very difficult, since many of the German post officials use aniline inks. But test by photography invariably proves their spurious character.

THE LATEST TRICK.

I WONDER why it is that there are so many rogues in philately. The latest trick, rather neatly played, is the following:—A gentleman in Reval had a collection sent to him on approval. He offered a ridiculously low sum, which, of course, was not accepted, and returned the collection, but he had *replaced nearly every rare stamp by a worthless forgery*. The man has been promptly turned out of every society he belonged to.

ROUMANIA 1869. 15 Bani.

I give below enlarged illustration of this forgery. It is not *very* dangerous, still I found that so-called experts in



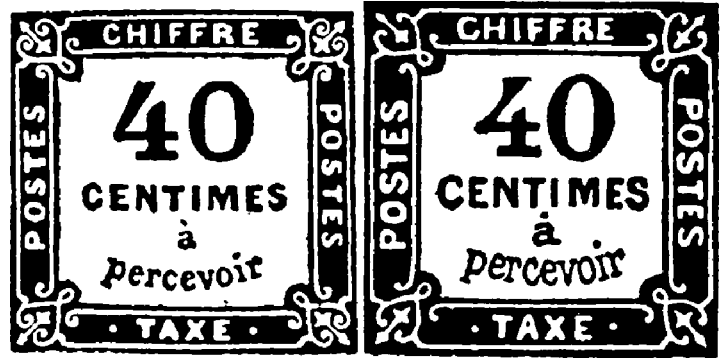
London have passed the stamps as genuine. The best test is the dot over the I in the word Bani which is omitted in the forgery.

LUXEMBURG, 37½c. BROWN, used.

SOME time ago I mentioned a forgery of this stamp, which emanated from the Duchy of Luxemburg, and was obtained by carefully erasing the surcharge "un franc," repainting where necessary. These forgeries have recently been seen with the postmark "Rosspport." However, as this office was only established on the 31st March, 1875, as a parcel office, and the stamps in question were withdrawn from sale long before that date, and only re-issued with the above surcharge, it may be reasonably supposed that *none* were actually used at that office. Therefore all copies with the postmark "Rosspport" are very suspicious, and bear, *on the face of it*, a shady character.

FRANCE 1870-78 UNPAID 40c. BLUE.

The illustration which I herewith append speaks for itself. The different type of the 4 is the best distinguishing mark.



The word "percevoir" is also badly reproduced.

I. R. OFFICIAL, 5/-, 10 -, £1.

SOME time ago I had occasion to draw my readers' attention to the fact that numberless forgeries of these stamps are current. Now it happens that a fairly large number of 5/-, 10/- and £1, green, recently got out from Glasgow, cancelled "ACCOUNTS—GLASGOW" (in oval), which are quite genuine, but nearly all others which have recently been submitted to me are rank forgeries of the well-known type. They are offered by a London dealer whose knowledge of philately is almost nil, and a good many continental dealers who are not aware of the character of the party in question have purchased from him. I am quite willing to examine any doubtful specimens if postage is enclosed. This is one more proof, how dangerous the ignorant dealer becomes who poses as an expert, but whose knowledge of stamps is an unknown quantity.

Announcements of Hilches' Enquiry Bureau.

WE have succeeded in making arrangements to include *Austria* in the scope of the operations of the above Bureau. We will repeat: Enquiries can now be made about any person living in the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland and Austria, at the uniform rate of 2/- per enquiry. If later on we find it possible to reduce our terms we shall be happy to do so.

Dodson.—We mentioned in our last number that a Mr. Dodson had obtained approval sheets from two quarters, giving as references the names of solicitors and accountants whom, we have since ascertained, only existed in Mr. Dodson's imagination. When calling at the address in Hanbury Street, we found it to be a stationer's shop where Mr. Dodson had been in the habit of calling for his letters, but for some considerable time past he has failed to put in an appearance there. We append the handwriting of this gentleman which bears a striking resemblance to that of D'avricourt.

Yours truly,
A. Dodson
B.A.

L. Davricourt, Paris.—We append photograph of a signature purporting to come from Paris, 29, Passage d' l' Opera, dated 10th November, 1895. The party in question only wants rare stamps as his collection is a magnificent one and he is quite willing to buy a good many rare stamps at reasonable prices; he will always remit by Money Order and he will always reply without delay, but curiously enough our correspondent wrote to the two references given and the envelopes were returned in each case "not known." Our readers will do well to fight shy of this gentleman.

*References Lieut Maclean R.N.
Bellevue Rd Southampton and Rev.
P. Wallis, M.A. St. D Cerwyns Rd. Cardiff.
In Paris, besides my bank, I can give
you references of the highest order.
Yours truly,
L. Davricourt.*

[We would esteem it a favour if readers would communicate with us in every case where they have reason to believe that they are being fleeced. We shall investigate every case submitted to us.]

City of London Philatelic Club.

THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING.

MEMBERS of the City of London Philatelic Club met on Monday, November 18th, for the Third Annual General Meeting. The attendance was fair; but doubtless the unavoidable postponement of the meeting from the previous Saturday had much to do with the non-attendance of many members whose presence at the meeting had been counted upon.

Mr. Harry Hilckes was voted into the chair, and proceeded to give in outline a report of the Club's doings during the past year. Unfortunately, the Club had not shown quite so much activity as could have been desired, but it was satisfactory to know that they could show a sound financial standing and an increase of membership. Of the notices of resignation before the chairman, two were accepted with regret, but one was put back for consideration, owing to the lateness at which it was tendered.

On the subject of the resignation of Mr. G. C. Warden, Junr., Vice-President of the Club, and one of the five founding members, it was decided, on the proposition of Mr. Joselin, seconded by Mr. Harry Hilckes, that Mr. Warden be elected to the post of Honorary Vice-President, in recognition of his services to the Club.

On the subject of accounts, the Chairman announced that the receipts were £65 7s. 4d., and the expenditure was £43 8s. 7d., leaving a balance in hand of £21 18s. 9d. Commission on the sales in the Exchange Packet amounted alone to £8 7s. 4d.—a most satisfactory result.

On the suggestion being made that a second auditor should be appointed, as was customary, the chairman invited some member of the Club to serve in company with Mr. Forbes. Mr. Plumridge kindly volunteered for the work, and his offer was accepted with thanks.

The election of officers was next proceeded with.

Mr. Percy C. Bishop read a number of suggestions drafted by a committee meeting held two days previously.

It was then proposed by Mr. Bishop, seconded by Mr. Thompson, and carried *non. con.*, that Mr. Hastings Wright be elected as President of the Club, subject to the consent of that gentleman.

It was also decided on the proposition of Mr. Bishop, seconded by Mr. Hilckes, to invite Mr. J. J. Lane to accept the Vice-Presidency, vacated by the retirement of Mr. Warden.

On the subject of the Secretaryship, it was deemed advisable to divide the duties of the post: Mr. C. Forbes to act as Corresponding Secretary, and Mr. Percy C. Bishop as General Secretary, to report the minutes of the meetings and to supply the philatelic press with reports of the Club's doings.

The full Committee consists of the following gentlemen:

<i>Vice-Presidents—</i>	
Mr. Harry Hilckes.	Mr. John J. Lane.
<i>Hon. Treasurer—</i>	
Mr. J. E. Joselin.	Hon. Librarian—
<i>General Secretary—</i>	
Mr. Percy C. Bishop.	Exchange Superintendent—
Mr. H. J. Bignold.	Mr. J. E. Joselin.
.. W. J. Hawkins.	
.. Herbert McMillan.	
.. H. Thompson.	
(One to be elected).	

Corresponding Secretary—

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E.

Finally, Mr. J. E. Joselin, Mr. C. Forbes and Mr. Percy C. Bishop were elected as a Rules' Committee to overhaul the Club's Rules and suggest to the Committee such amendments as seemed necessary.

The membership of the Club is now 109.

HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, *The Monthly Journal*, *The Stamp News*, *The Philatelic Record*, *The Stamp Collectors' Journal*, *The English Specialists' Journal*, *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, *Monthly Offers*, and the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*.

From France: *L'Annuaire Timbrologique* (Oct.), *Revue Philateliqne* (Aug.-Sept.)

From Germany: *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt*.

From Spain: *El Heraldillo Timbrologico*.

From the United States: *The American Journal of Philately*, *The Post Office*, *American Philatelic Magazine*, *Filatelic Facts and Fancies*, *Mickel's Weekly Stamp News* (Nos. 248, 249, 250 and 251), *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*, *The Monthly Bulletin of the Postal Card Society*.

Auction Catalogues from Messrs. Venton, Bull and Cooper, Puttick and Simpson, Cheveley & Co., and the London Philatelic Co.

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. Forbes, who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

GENERAL NOTICES.

Will members kindly note that in future meetings will be held *every alternate Monday evening* (following the publication of the official organ), at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, E.C., where a room, well suited for our purpose, has been engaged for the season.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, Dec. 2nd, at 7.30 p.m., at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, E.C., when the following matters will come up for discussion:

- 1.—Report of Rules Committee.
- 2.—Election of one Committee-Man.
- 3.—Appointing Entertainment Committee.
- 4.—Some Internal matters.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

and all communications with reference to the Club, must in future be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

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Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 30, 1895.



BETWEEN OURSELVES.

THE postal authorities of the various countries have at last been roused, and it has been decided to put a stop to the eternal changes of the

postal issues of the various countries. It is stated that the German postal authorities have started some *pourparlers* with other European countries to discuss the means of putting a stop to this nuisance, and to propose a resolution at the next Postal Congress in Washington in 1897. The resolution which the various countries in question (no doubt only the bigger countries are meant) will put to the meeting will specify that "all stamps which are merely issued to celebrate some event, but which were not occasioned by a postal want, will not be admitted to the Postal Union, and that no new issues may be emitted unless necessitated by the Postal Service. Where will Seebeck, &c., be then? Let us hope that this is true.

* * *

FROM the report we give elsewhere of the annual meeting of the City of London Philatelic Club, it will be seen that active steps are being taken to ensure a greater measure of usefulness for the Club. The work done by the Club during the past year has not been great; but *nous avons changé tout cela!* A new rendezvous has been obtained; men of known energy and tried ability have been elected for all the important offices, and thus everything has been done which could be done to pave the way for a year of good, useful work. Mr. Joselin, who has done such good work as Superintendent of the Club's Exchange Packet, has consented, not only to continue the duties of that post, but also to act as the Club's Treasurer. Mr. C. Forbes is still Librarian, and in addition to that, will henceforth transact the correspondence of the Club, and be known as the Club's "Corresponding Secretary." The General Secretaryship reverts to Mr. Percy C. Bishop, who acted as Secretary in the first year of the Club's existence. The Committee is a strong one, and we hope will prove to be a hard working one.

There are many readers of the FORTNIGHTLY, both in London and in the provinces, who would at once join the Club did they but know the advantages of membership. Country members are now admitted at a reduced rate of subscription. Full particulars will be furnished to any and every applicant for same by the Corresponding Secretary, Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

Personal Remarks.

BY
HARRY HILCKES.

IT was with great surprise that I read the following notice in *Mekel's Weekly* for the 10th October:—

"When Greek meets Greek," as of old, it is a struggle, but it is as bad when dealer meets dealer, and it is a very bad sign to philately when our dealers fall out. Just now I have heard of a very unpleasant piece of business between one of our leading dealers, who I will call the lamb, and a smaller dealer (a foreigner), who I will call the lion! The lamb buys a big collection, and ere he had scarcely got the books in possession has an application from a client for first look into Leeward Isles. These are mounted *in toto* in a book and sent on approval. No reply coming to hand, the book is written for, and it turns out that the applicant being away, asked the lion to return the book for him. The lion opens the book, finds a few forged postmarks, keeps back the book, and coolly shows it round to his customers, as so-and-so, the expert's approval book. For a bigger piece of impudence command me elsewhere. There is some talk of criminal proceedings; may it be so; but apart from this, it is very detrimental to philately to see this ill-will among the dealers, but it so happens that the lion appears unable to keep in good grace with anyone, and it is constant warfare—now with this dealer, and again with that society, and so on. I always myself have been very averse to foreigners; but when we hear of cases such as this, they become detestable, and ought to be sent home!

It is an open secret that the notice in question relates to a dispute between Mr. Frederick R. Ginn and myself. I accept unreservedly Mr. Ginn's denial of having inspired the article, but it is evidently based on information supplied by him, although not intended for publication. I, however, cannot submit to such a cowardly attack made upon me, as a foreigner, without offering some explanation on my part.

The facts are that a book of West Indian stamps was sent to a customer on approval, uninvited, and not on his application, as suggested, and from the appearance of the book many stamps had been sold from it before it came into the possession of the customer. The latter submitted the book for my examination and opinion, and finding that it contained a very large number of St. Lucia fiscals with forged postmarks, priced in the owner's handwriting, and other evidences of want of care in arranging the stamps, I rightly or wrongly considered that the matter was one which called for explanation, the owner of the book holding himself out as a "Philatelic Expert."

I was called upon to send the book back at once, and subsequently threatened with an action for its detention, or payment of the value *as priced*, and for damages. On considering my position, I came to the conclusion that it was my duty to hand back the book to the person from whom I had received it, which I accordingly did. I was however, served with a writ in the threatened action, but on the stamps being sent back by Mr. Ginn's customer, the claims for their return by me, and for their value, and for damages for detention of the book, were abandoned, leaving only the question of costs to be decided. I was held to have technically detained the book in the eyes of the law, and the costs of the proceedings, fixed at *Fifty shillings*, have been awarded against me. These being paid, the action is at an end.

This is the simple history of the "lion" and the "lamb," over which the writer in *Mekel's Weekly* waxes so wrath. The two animals have indeed laid down together; but, in the present case, reversing the order of things in the old story, it is the "lion" which has taken the "inside" place, so far as technicalities of the law are concerned.

There still remains, however, the question: was I right or wrong in calling attention to the forgeries which, in my humble opinion, undoubtedly existed in the book in question?

According to my idea, nearly ten per cent. of the total number of the stamps in it were not what they purported to be. Everyone will agree with me that dealers cannot exercise too great care in making up books to be sent out on approval. There would be a great danger to Philately were it otherwise,

For One Year's Subscription, post free.

especially in the case of stamps emanating from a dealer who advertises himself as an "Expert."

It is due to Mr. Ginn to say, that, in his first letter to me on the subject, he stated—"As far as I know the book does not contain a single forgery of any description; every care was used in arranging the stamps from an extensive collection made in Paris, from which a large number of stamps had to be expunged."

If he is still of the same opinion I would suggest to him that, in his own interests, he should submit the book to the Council of the Philatelic Society. Should that body be of opinion that I was wrong in condemning a large number of the stamps I will gladly acknowledge my error, and give my amplest apologies to Mr. Ginn for condemning the stamps in question, and so throwing any doubt upon the value of his authority as an expert.

If my remarks cause any annoyance to Mr. Ginn I regret it exceedingly, but he has to thank his intemperate, and injudicious friends and champions, for compelling me to pen this reply to the attack they have levelled against me. I cannot be expected to sit down in silence under such an attack, even though I have received a lawyer's letter threatening me, in anticipation, with proceedings in regard to that unknown quantity, my answer to the notice in *Mekel's Weekly*.

Sale of St. Helena Stamps.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies have been requested by the Government of St. Helena to dispose of the under-mentioned Surcharge Postage Stamps of which no further supplies will be printed.

The Stamps are of the following description and quantity:—
9600—Green 6d. Queen's head—Surcharged one shilling in words overprinted in black. Face value £480. The stamps are printed on Crown CC. watermarked paper and they have been superseded by a stamp printed on CA. watermarked paper which will be used for all future issues.

Tenderers must take all responsibility in connection with the quantities, description and condition of the Stamps sold. A specimen Stamp can be seen on application at the Crown Agents' Office.

The Crown Agents do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender, and no tender for a less amount than the face value, as specified above, will be considered.

Tenders will be received up to the 10th of December, 1895.

Offices of the Crown Agents for the Colonies,

Downing Street, London, S. W.
November 11th, 1895.



SAMOA, PAST AND PRESENT.

A MOST interesting article appeared in No. 15 of the *I.B.T.* which either is altogether incorrect or suggests collusion between an important firm in San Francisco and the postal authorities of that town. Leaving the question of the famous Express stamps alone, the author states that the present stamps of Samoa do not pay postage from Samoa to, say England, but that the "postmaster" Davis has an arrangement with the San Francisco Post Office by which he agrees to forward all letters posted at Apia, in a bag with the cash equivalent of postage attached; that on arrival, the officials at San Francisco affix the necessary U.S.A. stamps in addition to the Samoa ones, but that in all those cases in which the envelopes bear no U.S.A. stamps, the equivalent put into the bag in cash has been embezzled by the respective official.

Seeing now that the San Francisco firm in question, offers to address envelopes to any address bearing the Samoa stamps only, it becomes obvious that should this allegation be true, the firm must necessarily be in collusion with some fraudulent official at San Francisco. In support of this statement it is said that the German Trading Society in Apia had to pay some £30 excess postage on letters forwarded by Davis in 1892, which Davis was compelled to refund. That certainly looks very black indeed. We have communicated with the proper authorities in order to ascertain what contract Davis has with the Postal Union.

POSTMASTER'S DIFFICULTIES IN ASHANTI LAND.

WHEN, the other day, the letter box had to be cleared in far-off West Africa, this is what the post-boy brought back as its contents: four young rattlesnakes, one broken heathen god, one tame scorpion, two back teeth, one lion's tail, some liquid, &c. In another case, a sub-postmaster of native origin pasted his entire stock of stamps on his body, for fear that they might be stolen: they had to be postmarked there and then in order to prevent abuse. One native trader innocently enquired whether he could send little niggers as sample without value. Once, five natives brought a snake of about twelve yards in length, and wished to send same by parcels post. Such are the trials of a German post official as he describes them to his friends at home. Poor fellow! We had better make him "Special" to the "S.C.F."

ST. ANTONIO—A SAD FIASCO!

THE remainder of this famous issue, representing some 400 millions reis, or about seven-eighths of the whole edition, were burnt. Only 54 millions reis were sold in eighteen days, whereas of the Dom Henrique stamps 82 millions reis were sold in ten days; or, in other words, thanks to the prompt and active crusade of the S.S.S.S., the Portuguese Government expected to sell about 150 millions in the eighteen days (at the proportionate rate of sale of the Dom Henrique stamps), and only sold 54 millions, which meant that the single circular of the S.S.S.S. has saved philatelists all over the world some 100 millions reis, or £20,000. That result alone should induce every philatelist to send his 5/- to Mr. Gordon Smith, the Secretary of the S.S.S.S., 391, Strand, W.C.

GERMAN LAW AND DISHONEST DEALERS.

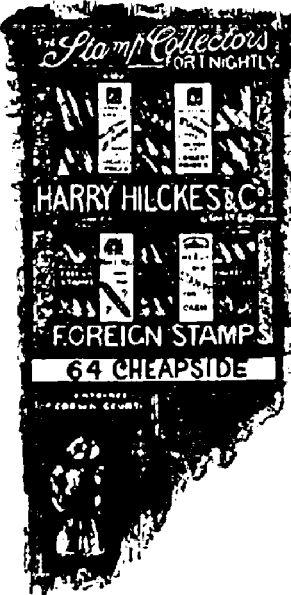
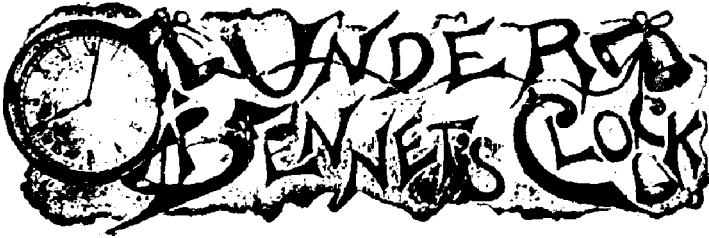
A VERY important opinion has been pronounced by the German Revision Court (the highest tribunal) according to which every seller of, say stamps, is bound to inform his client of all defects of the article he offers for sale. If he omits to do this, and, for instance, it is found out that he has sold a stamp with a mended perforation or *spurious postmark*, he is liable to imprisonment. We wonder how many English dealers would be outside prison walls if such a bill was passed in this country? We could supply the public prosecutor with *some* material.

POST "GIRLS" IN AACHEN.

WHAT to do with our girls, says the *D.T.*? The postal authorities of the Local Post "Merkur," in Aachen, that old German town, so closely allied to the history of the old German Emperors, have solved the question by dismissing *all* male clerks and engaging young ladies for the delivery of letters. We only hope the ladies of the postbag will not cause delay by "just asking how Mrs. Smith's baby is getting on," &c.

ENGLISH STAMPS SCARCE IN AMERICA.

SINCE the cataloguing and collecting of English plate numbers (says that smart little transatlantic weekly, the *Philatelic Era*), the old common one penny red of Great Britain is becoming noticeably scarce. Once, in the halcyon days of stamp collecting, we used to get several hundred of them in every "1000 finely mixed for 30 cents" packet. By the way, the commoner English plate numbers are catalogued far too high by Scott. This is particularly noticeable in some of the plate Nos. of the 2½d. blue, which Scott prices at 25 cents, and which are not worth to-day more than two or three cents. Scott is far above the English catalogues in the price of English plate numbers, as we have found by an extensive exchange with English collectors. In fact, we can get most stamps cheaper from our English cousins, including U.S., than we can here in the United States.



THE *Vertr. Korr. Blatt* of Frankfurt, A/M. So often have I had occasion to speak of this, to my mind, invaluable paper, which, edited by a committee of collectors, is the only paper in the world which makes it a practice to denounce every shady practice and practitioner on the field of philately, that I am obliged to devote a few lines to champion it against some, let me call it criticism of papers which otherwise are the first and foremost fighters against the common enemy. I mean the little sly hits which now and then have been published by that excellent periodical the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*. The latter paper without doubt is one of the foremost if not the foremost of all German philatelic papers. Edited and supported by Germany's best philatelic grandees it cannot well be otherwise.

The greatest failing of the German nation is the animosity between North and South. The often pronounced disdain of South German work is heartily responded to by ill concealed sneers on the part of the "Southerner" in criticising his "Berlin" brother's opinion. I am a North German myself, and being abroad I have, perhaps, a clearer insight into the folly of these petty quarrels, than either of the two contesting parties. It is a thousand pities that the *V.K.B.* is debarred from the help of our Berlin philatelists, simply and solely because it is edited by a South German Society. I know both sides, and know them both to be as earnest a body of philatelists as I have ever met in my periodical travels, and I should like to see the *V.K.B.* helped and assisted by our friends in Berlin. I feel sure that with a little give and take on both sides (for there is no doubt that both sides are wrong), an understanding could be arrived at, which would directly benefit the *V.K.B.*, and indirectly the whole philatelic world. I should like to see the *V.K.B.* in every philatelist's hands, as it would save him many pounds in hard cash. We can ill afford to miss the co-operation of our friends at Berlin, and I appeal to them to earnestly consider whether *rapprochement* is not possible. I may mention that every member of any of the 200 odd clubs, who support the paper, may subscribe to same, but no philatelist who does not belong to any of the affiliated societies cannot possibly be able to get a copy. The members of the City of London Philatelic Club can, however, on production of their current membership card, become a subscriber. The editor-in-chief is Mr. E. D. Frank, 39, Eiserne Hand, Frankfurt, A/M.

Foreigners.—In another column I draw attention to a cowardly attack chiefly addressed against myself as a German. Evidently, the fearless policy of the "S.C.F." is detested by a godly portion of the Trade whose means of livelihood is seriously in danger. The ignorance of the writer of the article is in keeping with his youth and inexperience, and although I very soon discovered the anonymous scribbler of Messrs. Mekeel's London letter, in the person of H. Martyn Gooch, a young clerk in the employ of the London Philatelic Society. I will state in fairness to the party in question, that as soon as he

heard that I was aware of his identity, he came at once to me and apologised for the foolish remark he made, and promised ample reparation in an early number of Mekeel's paper. That is as it should be, and although his article was a gross personal insult, he has done much by his frankness to atone for his journalistic indiscretion. It is, however, ample proof of what I have over and again stated, that my chief reason why I have such uphill work with the London trade is their utter contempt for everything not English. Their Alpha and Omega, and I am sorry to say that of a good many Englishmen, is to condemn everything if said and done by a foreigner, and the joke is, that just those who nurse this ill-will in the majority of cases have never been in a foreign country, nor do they even understand a word of any but their own language.

Auction Summary.—This is at last finished, and all orders are executed by the time this number appears. I trust the little work, which has occasioned an immense amount of labour, will be well received, although certain benevolent critics will have fresh occasion to vent their spleen.



OUR FORUM

** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper

identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

UNOFFICIAL, OF COURSE!

DEAR SIRS,—In connection with the Stamp Exhibition of the Edinburgh and Leith Philatelic Society on Saturday last, the following question arose:—

A gentleman having exhibited the United States, complete—mostly used and unused, a wonderful show—had also included the cards commemorative of the World's Fair at Chicago, 1893. I hold that these cards are simply private, just as much as the illustrated cards of Germany, Italy, France and elsewhere, and are not issued by the Post Department of the U.S., therefore, being without an official, that is to say Governmental character. I remember distinctly to have read at the time that the imprint "Official Souvenir Postal," found at the back, in connection with the design on all of them, indicates nothing else than that the cards in question are issued with the sanction of the Executive Committee of the Exhibition, doubtless for a handsome remuneration to them, prohibiting other cards, of course, to be sold within the grounds of the big show, just as much as there was an official photographer and official photographs of the buildings, &c.

The fact that these cards have been printed on the official Post cards says nothing in favour of the supposition that they are issued by government. This is done frequently where there is an anticipation of a great demand,—in Germany for instance—and quite legitimately, often effecting a large saving.

What is your opinion of it?—or that of your readers?

Faithfully yours,
Edinburgh, Nov. 19th. WILHELM KÜHN.

ONE MORE TESTIMONIAL.

DEAR SIRS,—This is to inform you of the safe arrival of my volume of the "S.C.F." It really is both a handsome and useful volume, and in that respect excels all the other books to be found on the philatelic bookshelf.—Yours faithfully,

Kennington, 14th Nov., 1895.

F.E.W.

Our Review of Reviews.

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

The Collection of U.S. Plate Numbers.

THE latest phase of advanced collecting, or specialising in United States stamps, takes the form of a partiality for plate numbers. Mr. John N. Luff, in a series of excellent articles, which ran through recent issues of the *American Journal of Philately*, (New York), furnished a detailed list of plate numbers of U.S. stamps, commencing with the 1c. of 1851. And now Mr. Crawford Capon, another able authority on U.S. stamps, contributes to *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News*, (U.S.), an elaborate and well-written defence of the collection of plate numbers. He writes:—

One of the greatest helps in enabling one to determine definitely and with certainty concerning the character of many United States stamps, is a knowledge of the plates that have been used in printing them. The existence, for instance, of some United States newspaper stamps, of the issue of 1875-94, on the peculiar paper used by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing is not fully understood until one learns that the plates made by the American Bank Note Company were used by the government's printing office before it prepared its own plates. The interest in the stamp is further heightened by the knowledge that the imprint on those plates was altered, and the fact of this use is thus impressed upon the mind. Also the mere knowledge of plate numbers—that is, what ones have been made by different companies, helps one in classification. One finding that the American Bank Note Company never made a plate of the 15 cent stamp of the 1870 issue, although they printed large numbers of them, classifies those from the plates of the National and Continental companies much more readily. Discussion of facts and consequent knowledge concerning them is much helped by knowledge of plate numbers. The late discussion, for instance, concerning the existence of a 24, 30 and 90 cent stamp of 1873, with Continental special mark, was helped considerably, to say the least, when the particular advocate of their existence, who had previously listed Continental plates for them, giving no numbers, discovered that there were no such plates. He found out what all Continental plates from 1—310 were, and that they included no 24, 30 nor 90 cents, while the American Bank Note Company began with 311.

This practically decided what the study of stamps themselves had before inclined many to believe. Thus the general utility of the knowledge of plate numbers is made evident. The collection of plate numbers commends itself, because it is a good means of systematic arrangement of one's stamps.

The Ideal Catalogue.

The Ideal Catalogue has not yet made its appearance, and until it does, it is interesting to hear all sides as to its essentials. The *Philatelic World*, concludes a review of Stanley Gibbons' Pocket Edition, with the following dictum:—

Philatelists require an artistically prepared standard catalogue fully listing and properly illustrating all stamps issued to a given date but giving no values of the stamps used or unused. The firm that would do this and guarantee at the time of issue subsequent up to date re-issues at regular triennial intervals would find a ready response to its enterprise. The purely trade catalogue in pocket size would then be relegated to its natural position in the economy of philately. It is a most desirable outcome of our pursuit in its very important way, but every philatelist is not necessarily a dealer, he is not always in a frantic state of auction bidding and street-corner swapping, while as "a man-in-hurry" he is practically unknown, so that a dignified work for permanent reference for his shelves would meet his reasonable wants, and then it would be of small moment what form the publisher of the pocket trade catalogue might select for his publication, in what type he printed it or how badly he illustrated it.

Queries for Mr. Seebeck.

The *Philatelic World*, (Calcutta), publishes a bitterly sarcastic "open letter" by way of a reply to Mr. Seebeck's recently published letter. Says this "no quarter to Seebeck's" correspondent:—

You affect to regret that you cannot terminate your contracts entered into with certain jobbing Governments. You imply that the issue of Seebecks must continue to the bitter end. You infer that you are powerless to stay the flow of the sorry sloppy stuff you have

set afloat. Allow me to put first one question to you. Are you under any compulsion whatever to sell for personal gain one single further pane of remainders of these so-called stamps? You dare not answer me honestly, and still stand by your preciously impudent letter. You are willing to continue in your highly remunerative calling as callously indifferent as ever to the very existence of the beautiful pursuit you profess to love. You say in effect that were you to step aside and wipe the stains from your philatelic and philanthropic hands, others would arise to fawn on schoolboys and shop girls for their pence and pice. "Pat Tammany," "Boss Tweed redivivus," and other Yankee sharpers, must not it seems be permitted to crow from the muck-heap whence N. F. Seebeck gets his pickings.

As I write, some of your flaring concoctions with statues and other things on them are lying before me on some chance approval sheets among many honest stamps. The Seebecks are very highly priced. They are not stamps. They have never passed into the possession of any postal department of any Government, and yet I am asked to buy them at several hundred times their cost. You know well into whose pockets the profit on my purchase would go were I to invest.

And "in the meantime" (to quote your own words) you "wish God-speed to the crusade of honesty and integrity in philatelic affairs."

Horse whips and jobbery!! I am tired of you!!!

The Tonga Bogie.

Does any sane philatelist continue to collect Tongas? If so the following appeal to the S.S.S.S. by the Australasian Correspondent of the *London Philatelist*, may cause him to pause:—

The S.S.S.S. must bring its heaviest guns to bear on the barbarian hosts of Tongatabu, that all true Philatelists may learn to tabu Tonga! Not content with issuing sundry "surcharge" absurdities to represent such rates as 1½d. and 7½c., the guardian genius of the Tonga Post-office has rung the changes on red and black surcharges, and used varying types and colours of stamps to bear those indications. Now the set bearing the portrait of King George II., which he condemned on account of the libellous misrepresentation of his noble countenance, has been "temporarily" issued. It is very true that when the vices of civilisation find a habitation in savage countries, they flourish with a vigour unparalleled in the "country of origin."

A Good Story.

Mr. W. Sellschopp, the well-known dealer of San Francisco, publishes in his journal, *Philatelic Facts and Fancies*, some interesting notes on his trip to the recent Congress at Mannheim. The following story will bear repetition:—

I must not omit to relate an amusing incident that occurred before reaching Mannheim. Forgetting for a moment that I was on a European railway train, I hung my overcoat on the side near the door of the compartment. While the train was in full swing and the interest of our stamp trading at its height, the conductor opened the door, and away blew the overcoat. A gentleman from Frankfurt, of a somewhat nervous temperament, observing something flying through the air, immediately concluded that it was his valise, containing stamps to the value of about 15,000 marks, or \$3,750,000.

"Gentlemen, for heaven's sake," he exclaimed, "I cannot stand this! What shall I do? I shall lose all my valuable stamps! Oh, heavens, I am a poor ruined man."

"Quick, pull the alarm cord and stop the train," shouted one.

"But it will cost you 33 marks," shouted another.

About two seconds was occupied evidently in a mental calculation of the difference between 33 marks and 15,000 marks, and then the rattled Frankforter gave a yank at the cord. A sharp long whistle followed, the train slowed down, and a few seconds later came to a standstill.

The short time that elapsed between the pulling of the alarm cord and the stop was full of interesting developments. Hardly had the whistle shrieked when our friend's excitement abated, and then he saw his valise lying quietly between his feet. The expression on his face I shall never forget.

"Why, there is my valise!" he exclaimed.

"Did you not know it all this time?" I asked him. "I thought you had missed your pocket book, otherwise I should have informed you that your valise was all the time just where it now is." The result of my friend's mistake was that I recovered my overcoat, and although our friend was not compelled to pay the usual 33 marks fine for stopping the train, the incident did not prove exactly enjoyable to him, and we subsequently had many a laugh and joke over the incident.

A Rapid Rise in Price.

Mr. Sellschopp relates another little incident as an instance of how deeply the European collector goes in for minor varieties. He says:—

While in Frankfort I sold the † schilling Heligoland, green and red, Scott's No. 5, used, for \$6.00, which is \$1.00 over full catalogue. During our trip to Mannheim the gentleman who purchased it from me sold it readily for \$20.00. Its value lay in the fact that it was of a peculiar, rare shade, and the last owner considered that he had secured a splendid bargain. He now holds this stamp at 200 marks, equal to \$50.00.

Possibly the European, if he crossed into Mr. Sellschopp's territory, would find that the tendency towards minor varieties, is not confined to Europe. I have a dim recollection of a few minor varieties in U.S. stamps, that fetch the dollars pretty readily out of the American collectors' pockets.

The U.S. Post Office and Philatelists.

Philatelists, although they strongly resent the making of stamps for sale to them, do not object to such pleasing little attentions as are shadowed forth in the following announcement in the Sept. number of *Philatelic Facts and Fancies*:—

Through the efforts of Mr. Adolf Lohmeyer we note that an important reform, so far as philatelists are concerned, has been accomplished in the Post-office Department. There are the instructions which have been issued from Washington as the result of Mr. Lohmeyer's complaint:—"Please issue such instructions as may be necessary to cause the discontinuance at your office of the practice of defacing postage stamps, or postmarks, already on articles, by the impression of other postmarks placed on the same article at your office." This was addressed to the postmaster of New York, but is general in its application.

I recommend our philatelic friends in Tasmania to try a similar hint with their postal authorities. The current Tasmanian cancellation is so heavy that after it has been applied one wonders what has become of the postage stamp.

No American Philatelic Patriarchs.

Mr. L. G. Quackenbush, a frequent and pleasing contributor to American Philatelic periodicals, has recently been looking for philatelic patriarchs, and not being able to find any in the Great Republic relieves his feelings as follows in the pages of the *Pennsylvania Philatelist*:—

Few philatelists have as yet passed beyond the fifth of Shakespeare's seven ages. Can it be that in old age, Philately loses its power to please? Almost all other pleasures fall upon he who has lived to the allotted three score years and ten; will Philately, too, be adjured when we, who are to-day in the full vigour of manhood, shall have reached our second childhood? I trust not. Philately as a pursuit is so young, that those who are young with it, and have grown older as it has grown older, have hardly as yet reached the prime of life. The reason that few men over sixty are found in the ranks is that when our fathers were young, Philately as a pastime had never been heard of. Had they joined the philatelic army in their youth, as so many of us have done, they would still be in the ranks to-day. There is no reason why we should drop out of the philatelic legions, even should we live to enjoy a green old age. I hope to retain my love for the old stamp album and its precious contents until I am mustered out of earthly cohorts and promoted to membership in a greater and a grander army.

When Mr. Quackenbush crosses the herring pond we shall have much pleasure in introducing him to a few philatelic antiquities ranging from 80 upwards.

The Necessary Study of Forgeries.

Mr. J. D. Kirke, in *The Collector*, (U.S.) gives some very good advice to the young collector, which I suspect many old collectors would also do well to make a note of:—

One cannot be too careful nowadays what he buys or of whom he buys. A forgery is dear at any price, and no young collector can afford to have the pages of his album defaced and disgraced by such

trash. I believe that, as a rule, young collectors take very little pains to protect themselves from the forger; or, at least, not as much as they should. They do not trouble to post themselves in regard to the very commonest methods of detecting spurious stamps; and, consequently, it is small wonder that they are cheated right and left.

The reason that most collectors at the beginning of their careers have to go through so many disagreeable experiences in regard to this very matter is because they totally neglect to study the literature pertaining to the subject. There are many works available that could hardly fail to prove very helpful to the young collector; and he makes a very great and very serious mistake in not reading and studying them carefully.

Every specialist makes a special collection of all the available forgeries of the country he specialises, and I have known very tall prices paid for scarce specimens.

The One Franc Vermilion of France.

The *Philatelic Californian* gives the following interesting history of the 1fr. vermilion of France:—

The stamp was issued in 1850, and occurred through an error of the pressman, who, during the printing of these stamps, put the vermilion ink used for the 40 centimes on the press that was then printing the one franc stamp. For this reason, good copies should be in the exact colour of the 40 centimes, but as there was on the press at the time some of the carmine ink (the true colour of the 1 franc) there occurred a variety of shades after the vermilion became mixed with the carmine ink, every impression producing a slightly different shade from a bright vermilion to a deep carmine lake. The exact vermilion is the very scarce colour, and stamps of that shade are catalogued at £15 unused and £8 used; but for some time passed the market price of the unused stamp has fallen to £10. This decline in value was caused by the finding (by the heirs of Mr. Hilot, the late printer of French stamps) of a complete sheet of them, of which the *tête bêche* pair was sold for £200.

U.S. Stamps as an Investment.

The native U.S. collector is a firm believer in U.S. stamps as an investment. He is generally credited with having cornered enough Columbians to serve for a few centuries to come. A writer in the *Bay State Philatelist* offers some advice to stamp investors in U.S. He says:—

Buy those stamps which are not catalogued high, in short, those which are "underlisted." For instance, the 90 cent of the 1861 issue, the 15 cent of the 1869 issue without the diamond, the 30 cent of the same year, and the 12 cent, 24 cent, and 90 cent, of the 1872 issue, unused. These are a few of the regular issues, but there are many more equally good.

But the question which will naturally suggest itself to the would be investor will be, what is the out-of-sight stock of these stamps, and how will my investment fare when prices tempt the cornerers to unload?

Two Dollar Columbians.

The *Weekly Philatelic Era* (U.S.) a smartly edited journal hailing from Portland, Me., U.S., warns collectors not to be in a hurry to buy 2 dollar Columbians, just because they are going up.

They are apt to come down again. The syndicate is buying everything in sight at \$1.25 (17s.) and will soon be in a position to unload at a handsome profit on the original investment. When they do so there will be a decided slump, so wily investors are purchasing in quantity only when they have the stamps already sold;—a wise plan.

I have never been able to see the force of the fancy prices quoted for Columbians, for the quantities printed are ample to go round—if collectors will only have the patience to wait for the inevitable distribution of the supply. The absurdity of the quoted prices is attested by the fact that the one dollar has been run up to 30/-, or over seven times face value, while only 27/-, or 7/- over face is quoted for the five dollars, and yet of the one dollar 54,470 were printed against only 17,885 of the five dollars. In point of genuine rarity the five dollars is three times as good as the one dollar.

NOTICE.

EXCHANGE copies of *Philatelic Journals* for notice in OUR REVIEW OF REVIEWS pages should be forwarded direct to the Editor, Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, Carisbrook, Birdhurst Rise, Croydon; and two copies as usual to the Offices of the "S.C.F.", 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

Class a—Superb condition, if unused with gum, (mint state), if used, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post-marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked *

(Continued from page 50).

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, November 4th & 5th, 1895.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Nevis, 4d. orange, litho	1	2	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d., pale lake, plate 1	1	0	0
b	ditto, ditto, a pair	1	14	0
a	ditto, 1d., red, plate 2, pair	4	4	0
b	ditto, 2d., plate 2, pair	2	6	0
bc	ditto, 3d., brownish green, pair	2	4	0
a	2d., blue, stars on piece	0	16	0
a	5d., green, imperf., small margins	2	14	0
b	Nova Scotia, 6d., dark green	1	10	0
a	8½c. on yellowish *	1	2	0
a	ditto, on white *	1	6	0
b	Philippines (1854), 10ct., carmine*	1	5	0
a	Queensland, 1/-, bright violet, no wmk.	0	18	0
b	Roumania, 50 b., with beard	0	19	0
a	St. Vincent, 1/-, brown	0	18	0
c	Scinde, ¼a., scarlet, on piece	1	5	0
a	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze, penmark	0	18	0
a	(1869), 19 cuartos, brown	0	15	0
b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r.	3	0	0
a	Geneva, 5c., blue green, large eagle	1	12	0
b	ditto, 5c., apple green, ditto	1	1	0
c	Vaud, 4c., oiled by pmk.	11	0	0
a	Winterthur, 2½r.	1	10	0
a	Zurich, 6r., horizontal	1	5	0
a	ditto, ditto, vertical	1	9	0
a	United States (1869), 90c.	1	18	0
a	Victoria, 10d. slate	0	18	0
b	Western Australia, 6d. green-black	1	4	0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., November 6th & 7th, 1895.

a	British East Africa, ¼a. violet on 2a. red	2	10	0
a	Cape of Good Hope, THE E PENCE	0	18	0
u	THREE PENCE	0	17	0
b	Ceylon, 2d. emerald, CC. *	1	3	0
a	4d. rose, star *	1	10	0
a	ditto, used	0	15	0
a	4d. violet-rose, star	1	3	0
b	5d. purple-brown, star *	7	10	0
b	ditto, CC. *	8	10	0
b	ditto, no wmk.	£1	8s.	od. and
b	6d. brown star	1	16	0
a	8d. yellow-brown, star *	16	10	0
a	8d. brown, star, 2 copies	each	3	3
a	9d. violet-brown, star	0	15	0
a	9d. brown, no wmk., 1 copy, 19/-; and 2	each	1	0
a	1/9 green, star *	3	3	0
a	Service, 2/- blue, imperf.	6	5	0
a	10c. on 36c. blue *	1	16	0
a	5c. on 24c. purple-brown, CA., penmark	1	0	0
a	Cyprus, 1/- green *	1	3	0
a	30p. on 1d., surcharge inverted *	1	0	0
a	Fiji, Times Express, 1d. on quadrillé *	2	4	0
a	ditto, 3d. ditto, penmark	4	5	0
a	ditto, 6d. ditto, ditto	4	5	0
a	ditto, 1/- ditto *	3	15	0
b	ditto, 9d. on laid batonné *	1	14	0
a	ditto, 1/- ditto *	1	2	0
a	2d. in red, on 3d. (6c.) green, gothic V.R.	1	10	0
b	2d. in black, on ditto plain V.R.	3	12	6

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Gambia, 1/- green *	2	4	0
a	Gibraltar, first issue, 1/- *	2	0	0
a	Gold Coast, 1d. blue, CA. *	2	16	0
b	¼d. olive, CA. *	1	4	0
b	Great Britain, 2d. blue, no lines *	2	16	0
a	2d. large crown, perf. 14 *	1	6	0
a	(1862), 6d. lilac, hair lines, * 2 copies	each	1	0
a	6d. emblems, plate 5, block of 8 *	5	5	0
a	10d. embossed *	2	12	0
b	1/- pale green, embossed *	8	5	0
a	2/- pale blue *	1	1	0
a	5/- deep rose, plate 1 *	1	14	0
a	5/- pale rose, plate 2 *	2	6	0
a	10/- grey-green, anchor	1	6	0
b	£1 brown-lilac, anchor	1	10	0
a	ditto, cross	1	1	0
a	£1, 3 crowns *	2	2	0
a	ditto, 3 orbs *	4	7	6
a	£5, postally used	2	15	0
a	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown	0	19	0
b	India, ¼a. red, pair with sheet margin *	17	10	0
b	4a. red and blue *	2	6	0
a	another, with wavy line showing *	10	10	0
a	2a. green *	3	3	0
a	6a. lilac and green, tall surcharge, strip of 4 *	2	8	0
b	ditto, short surcharge, a single *	1	7	0
a	Service, 2a. black and lilac *	2	4	0
a	Labuan, 6c. orange-brown, CA. sideways	2	14	0
a	12c. carmine, CC., 2 copies *	each	1	0
a	8c. black on 12c., surcharge inverted	1	16	0
a	Malta, ¼d. buff on bluish *	1	3	0
a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. early	6	10	0
a	Britannia, green *	1	1	0
a	ditto, 1/- vermilion *	1	4	0
b	ditto, 1/- green, imperf. *	1	10	0
a	1/- on 5/- brown-lilac *	1	2	0
a	1/- on 5/- mauve *	1	5	0
b	Natal, first issue, 1d. buff	1	10	0
a	ditto, 3d. rose	1	8	0
b	ditto, 6d. green	1	2	0
a	ditto, 1/- buff	4	0	0
b	New South Wales, Laureated, 1d. red on bluish *	2	16	0
b	ditto, 2d. blue, no wmk., plate 1 *	1	7	0
a	ditto, 2d. grey-blue, ditto, ditto *	2	2	0
b	ditto, 2d. stars, WAES	4	0	0
a	5d. green, imperf. *	4	4	0
b	8d. orange, ditto, used	3	0	0
a	(1860), 5/- purple, perf. 12x10 *	1	14	0
a	(1863), 1d., wmk. 2 *	2	2	0
a	(1888), 5/-, wmk. 5/- *	1	3	0
a	ditto, 20/-, ditto *	2	6	0
a	Service (1880), 2d. blue, O.S. in red	1	4	0
a	New Zealand, 2d. blue, no wmk., perf. 13	0	19	0
b	2d. vermilion, N.Z. *	0	19	0
a	1/- deep green, pelure, perf.	4	0	0
a	Queensland, ¼d. on 1d. *	0	15	0
b	1d. carmine, imperf.	1	10	0
a	1d. orange-brown, buréle	1	0	0
a	5/- rose, no wmk. *	1	16	0
b	20/- rose *	2	4	0
a	Registered, maize *	1	7	0
a	Scinde, ¼a., red, cut round	1	10	0
a	Straits Settlements, 4c. rose, CA. *	1	10	0
a	Bangkok, 2c. on 32c. *	1	3	0
a	Perak, 2c. vert. on 4c., 2 copies	each	1	4
b	Transvaal (1877), 1d. red, surcharge inverted	6	5	0
u	1d. on 4d. (Queen) ditto *	0	16	0

Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, November 11th, 1895.

b	Canada, ¼d. imperf. *	1	0	0
a	Ceylon, 5d. star, perf. *	0	14	0
a	Nevis, 1/- deep violet *	2	12	6
a	New Brunswick, half of 6d., on entire	2	15	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.			
		£	s.	d.	
a	Newfoundland, 4d., pale carmine-red, on entire	..	3	0	0
b	New South Wales, Sydney View, 2d., plate 1	..	0	18	0
b	ditto, 3d., green, on entire	..	1	0	0
a	Laureated, 6d., light brown, fine ground, two on entire	..	1	16	0
a	Nova Scotia, half of 6d., green, on piece	..	1	10	0
a	half of 3d. and a 6d., on entire	..	2	6	0
a	Sandwich Islands, 5c., blue on bluish, "Hawaiian Postage," both sides, on entire, with a common U.S.A.	..	2	10	0
b	two other copies	..	0	14	0
b	Tasmania, 4d., orange	..	2	10	0
b	Transvaal, 3d., violet on buff, sloping VR., wide roulette	..	0	10	0
a	United States, 5c., brown, imperf.	..	1	3	0
a	Columbus, 1 dollar	..	0	13	0
b	Victoria, first issue, 1d., rose red, * 3 copies	each	1	0	0
b	ditto, 1d., dull red	..	1	6	0
a	ditto, 2d., coarse ground, fine border	..	2	15	0
c	ditto, 2d., coarse ground and border	..	1	0	0
a	ditto, 2d., fine ground and border, on entire	..	3	3	0
b	another ditto	..	2	10	0
b	Queen on Throne, 2d., red brown, engraved	..	0	16	0
b	ditto, 2d. black-brown, litho	..	1	2	0
b	another, later state	..	0	17	0
b	Emblems, 2d., slate, "Two Pence," perf.	..	0	16	0
b	ditto, 2d. mauve, hor. laid, roulette	..	0	15	0
c	ditto, 2d. deep lilac, "Three Pence," perf.	..	1	0	0
b	first issue, 3d. deep blue, type 2 *, 2 copies	each	1	0	0
b	Emblems, 4d., no wmk., imperf., strip of 3 *	..	1	0	0
b	block of 6	..	2	10	0
a	block of 6, printed on back	..	2	15	0
b	1/- rouletted, pair with a common on entire	..	4	4	0
b	Western Australia, 2d. brown-red, on entire	..	2	10	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, November 12th & 13th, 1895.

a	Antioquia (1874), 5 pesos, rose	..	0	15	0		
a	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf.	..	3	10	0		
b	Barbados, 5/- rose	..	1	10	0		
a	Bolivia, first issue, 50c. blue (? *)	..	2	6	0		
a	(1869), 500c. black	..	2	6	0		
b	Brazil, 600 reis, sloping figures	..	3	10	0		
b	British Columbia, 10c. blue and pink, perf. 12½	..	2	4	0		
b	British East Africa, 1 anna on 2d.	..	1	1	0		
a	British Honduras, 6d. rose, CC., perf. 14	..	2	12	6		
b	Buenos Ayres, 3 pesos green	..	2	15	0		
a	4 pesos brown	..	1	10	0		
c	Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf., thinned	..	6	10	0		
b	2/- blue, imperf.	..	5	0	0		
a	Confederate States, Petersburg, 5c. red	..	2	6	0		
b	Congo, first issue, 5fr. violet	..	1	5	0		
b	Fernando Poo, 20c., brown	..	1	6	0		
b	Great Britain, 4d., red, plate 1, imperf. *	..	0	12	0		
a	ditto, plate 9, ditto	..	2	6	0		
a	V.R., hne margins, full gum	..	11	11	0		
a	another, with red postmark	..	12	0	0		
a	a pair of 1864 reprints	..	3	5	0		
a	1d., on white, die 2, small crown, perf., 14	..	1	0	0		
a	2d., blue, no lines	..	2	16	0		
b	two other copies	..	each	1	0	0	
a	2d., blue, large crown, perf., 14, plate 5	..	0	12	0		
a	ditto, plate 6, 3 copies, badly centred	..	each	0	17	0	
a	two others, better centred	..	19s. and	1	1	0	
a	2½d., orb., plate 3	..	3	10	0		
b	another	..	2	4	0		
a	6d., octagonal, violet	..	3	3	0		
b	another	..	1	0	0		
a	6d., buff, plate 12 *	..	£1	4s. and	1	12	0
b	another	..	0	16	0		
b	6d., buff, spray, plate 13	..	2	0	0		
c	9d., straw, plate 3 (hair lines), slight damage	..	5	0	0		
b	10d. octagonal, plate 3	..	£1	15s. and	1	18	0
b	1s. ditto, dark green	..	1	16	0		
a	2s., brown	..	5	10	0		
b	another	..	3	15	0		
c	two others	..	each	1	10	0	
b	a single, used	..	2	0	0		
c	another	..	1	14	0		
b	5s., carmine, plate 2 *	..	1	6	0		
b	£1, purple-brown on white, anchor, telegraph cancel	..	1	1	0		
c	£1, purple-brown, 3 crowns, pinholes	..	2	2	0		

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.					
		£	s.	d.			
a	Great Britain, £5, orange, telegraph cancel	..	£2	12s. 6d. and	2	17	6
a	I.R. Official, 5s., carmine	..	..	..	3	5	0
a	ditto, 10s., blue	..	..	..	3	15	0
a	ditto, £1, green, vertical pair	..	..	..	12	0	0
b	a single	..	..	..	5	15	0
a	Hong Kong, 12c., on 10 dollars rose	..	..	..	0	13	0
a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., vermilion, earliest state	..	..	..	14	0	0
a	Large Fillet, 2d., blue	..	..	..	12	0	0
b	Greek Border, 1d., red	..	..	..	1	12	0
a	ditto, 2d., blue	..	..	..	1	11	0
a	Britannia, 4d., black on green	..	£2	10s. and	2	15	0
a	ditto, 1s., green, perf.	..	..	..	0	16	0
b	Mexico, 3c., brown, with surcharge	..	..	..	3	10	0
a	Nevis, 1s., green, litho	..	..	..	1	8	0
a	Newfoundland, 4d., orange, cut close	..	..	..	2	2	0
b	New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d., plate 1	..	..	..	1	10	0
c	5d., green, imperf., thinned	..	..	..	2	4	0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d., red-brown	..	..	..	1	2	0
a	8½c., green on white	..	..	..	1	4	0
b	Peru, medio peso, yellow	..	..	..	2	2	0
b	Philippines, first issue, 10c. pale rose	..	..	..	1	3	0
b	5c. red, litho	..	..	..	1	0	0
a	(1863), 2r. blue	..	..	..	1	12	0
a	St. Christopher, 1d. lilac-rose, CA.	..	..	..	3	10	0
a	1/- lilac	..	..	..	1	6	0
b	St. Lucia (6d.) green star	..	..	..	4	0	0
a	6d. lilac, CA.	..	..	..	3	0	0
b	St. Vincent, 1/- blue, perf. 11½	..	..	..	0	19	0
b	South Australia, 1d. green, imperf.	..	..	..	0	15	0
c	Switzerland, Neuchatel, 5c., slight tear	..	..	..	9	5	0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue	..	..	..	1	4	0
a	United States, 5c. brown, imperf.	..	..	..	1	14	0
b	(1850), 90c. blue	..	..	..	3	0	0
a	(Columbus), set	..	..	..	4	8	0
b	Victoria, 6d. orange, beaded oval	..	..	..	4	12	6
b	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, single line border	..	..	..	3	10	0
a b	Western Australia, 1d. black, 10 pairs	..	..	..	1	16	0
b	6d. octagonal, green-black	..	..	..	1	6	0
a	Zululand, 5/- carmine (Great Britain)	..	..	..	3	0	0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., November 20th and 21st, 1895.

b	British Columbia, 2½d. pink, perf., pair	..	..	1	10	0	
b	10c. perf., 12½	£2	12s. and	2	18	0	
b	25c. ditto	..	..	..	1	16	0
a	50c. ditto	..	..	..	2	0	0
b	another, used	£1	9s. and	1	10	0
a	1 dollar ditto	..	..	..	3	0	0
b	10c. perf. 14	..	..	..	5	0	0
a	1 dollar ditto	..	..	..	7	10	0
a	Bahamas, 1d. imperf.	..	..	..	1	14	0
a	another, used	..	..	..	3	10	0
a	1d. perf., about 15	£1	and	1	4	0
b	1d., no wmk., perf. 13	and	1	5	0	
a	Barbados, 4d., red, on bluish, pair	..	..	..	1	3	0
a	1/-, black, imperf.	..	..	..	1	6	0
b	5/-, rose, 2 copies	each	4	4	0	
a	a single, used	..	..	..	2	2	0
c	British Guiana, first issue, 4c., orange, cut round, but fine	..	..	..	32	0	0
c	ditto, 4c., yellow, cut round and mounted, but fine	..	..	..	38	0	0
c	ditto, 8c., green, cut round, but fine	..	..	..	23	0	0
a	ditto, 12c., indigo, cut square	35	0	0		
c	ditto, 12c., blue, cut octagonal, but fine	15	0	0		

(To be continued.)

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Amongst other Rare Stamps will be found the following:—

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 Bahamas, 1d. imperf., a fine pair.
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 Brunswick, 1st issue, 3sgr., unused.
 Canada, imperf., 6d. and 7½d., used, and 10d. unused—perf. 6d. and 3ct. brown, on laid paper.
 Cape, woodblock, 4d. blue, superb.
 Ceylon, 8d., 9d., 10d. and 1/-, and 1/9 imperf., and 2/- imperf., unused.
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 New Zealand, no wmk., 2d., rouletted, superb, and 1/-, serrated perf.
 Nova Scotia, 1d., 3d., 6d.
 New Brunswick, 1/- and 8½cts.
 Oldenburg, 1st issue, ½ and ½th, unused, 2nd issue—¼ and 3 gros, unused—a fine strip of 5 of the 3 gros—3rd issue, ¼gr. moss green, and others.
 Queensland, 2d., imperf., etc.
 St. Lucia, CA., 1/- orange.
 St. Vincent, a superb lot including 5/- star, used and unused—1d. on ¼ of 6d.—4d. on 1/-.—4d. dark blue star, unused, and many others.
 Spain, 1866, 12cts., imperf., with reversed centre.
 Switzerland, Zurich, 4 and 6 rap.—Winterthur, 2½r.—Neufchatel, 5cts., etc.
 Tasmania, 1d. blue, unused, and 1d. star, unused.
 Trinidad, very fine lot of imperf. issues, superb lithographs on entires, etc., etc.
 United States, 1855, 90cts.—1868, 90cts., with grille—1869, complete—Columbus, complete, etc.
 Western Australia, 1st issue, complete, and others.
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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THIS latest addition to the ranks of Philatelic Societies, was successfully inaugurated on Friday Evening, Nov. 15th.

The first meeting was held in the rooms of Mr. Oscar Browning, King's College, and there was an attendance of nine members.

The promoter of the Society, (Mr. H. D. Catling, B.A.) briefly addressed the meeting with regard to the aims of the Society.

Letters were read from Mr. Oscar Browning, accepting the office of President, and from Dr. Lea, F.R.S., sympathising with the formation of the Society, and regretting that ill-health prevented him from taking any active part in the management. The following officers were unanimously elected:—Oscar Browning, Esq., M.A., King's College, president; Mr. T. Gittin, Pembroke College, hon. treasurer; Mr. H. D. Catling, B.A., 12, Pembroke Street, Cambridge, hon. secretary.

Committee:—Mr. J. W. Mercer, Clare College, Mr. G. E. S. Davis, King's College, Mr. E. Griffiths, St. Peter's College,

The meeting next proceeded to draw up the rules, based upon those of the Oxford Society, kindly supplied by the hon. sec., Mr. F. A. Bellamy, to whom a vote of thanks was passed. Membership was limited to past and present members of the University of Cambridge; the subscription was fixed at 2/6 per annum, with an entrance fee of 1/-; and meetings were arranged to take place in different members' rooms on Friday Evening in each week. A vote of thanks was passed to Messrs. Hilckes & Co., for giving the Society permission to use the "S.C.P." as its official organ.

The second meeting of the Society was held in the rooms of the Hon. Sec. on Friday, Nov. 22nd, when seven members were present.

The Hon. Sec. requested members to send him any forgeries they might possess, to enable him to commence a collection of the same for future reference. He at the same time showed a good forgery of the 1d. triangular Cape which he had recently purchased in a collection.

An exceedingly dangerous forgery, on a piece of original newspaper, of the 4t. arms of Naples, which the owner had purchased in Switzerland, was also shown. He laughingly stated that a well-known dealer had offered him £10 for the specimen, without ever suspecting its genuineness.

A vote of thanks to the Hon. Sec., for the use of his rooms concluded the business, after which the remainder of the evening was spent in sociability.

PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

(Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 2d. for every six words. — Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

BRITISH Protectorate Oil Rivers, 2d., 2½d., 5d., Stamp and Post Card, all used; catalogue value, 12/6; only 1/10 the set. Slight reduction on taking quantity. — M. SIMPSON, 21, Alford Street, Edge Lane, Liverpool.

CHEAP English Penny Red, complete plate numbers except 225, only 12/- Packets of plate numbers 25 different, 6d.; 50 different, 1/3; 75 different, 2/0; 100 different, 4/6; 125 different, 7/-; good condition. — D. LLOYD, Stowe, Lichfield. [3]

La Revue Philatologique (Havre).—Large circulation, 16 pages monthly. Year's Subscription and 5 line advertisement 1/- (specimen copy, 1d.) Send for cheap (medium) approval sheets, what offers? 1/- green Nevis group used. — STANLEY JOHNSON, 164, Grove Road, Bow.

LEBIG'S Advertisement Tickets wanted in exchange for Old German States.—M. BÖSCHKE, 29, Poteithorpromenade Brannschweig (Germany). [8]

GIVEN Away with 1000 Rare Stamps, a small Packet of 80 Varieties, very rare, all warranted genuine. Post free, 1/9.—F. A. HEARN, 87, Bedford Hill, Balham.

SET 8 Hayti, 10d. Selection of good medium Stamps sent on approval at about half catalogue.—H. K. SHIELDS, 328, High Holborn, London, W.C.

U.S. COLUMBIANS 1c.—10c. unused, 4/-; 30c. unused, 2/6; set of 4 envelopes, 2/-; Set of 22 envelopes, 12/-; 1890 issued, unused, 12/-; 1894 issue, unused, unwatermarked (1c.—30c.), £1; same watermarked, 12/-; 25.00, 21.00 and 25.00 Columbians, unused, £3; 4c. green on white (1883), 6d.; 4c. red on amber (1893), 6d.; 4c. red on amber (1894), 4d.; 2c. brown on fawn (1884), 4d.; 2c. brown on blue (1884), 4d. Postage Extra. Foreign Correspondents for exchange solicited. — M. CORNISH, 225, First Street, S. E., Washington, D. C., U.S.A.

100 Good Stamps for 6d. Post Free. Columbia, 4c., Peru, Orange, Newfoundland, Cape (obsolete), Nossi-Bé, Congo, Mexico, Leeward Isles, Java, Gold Coast, Martinique, Caledonia, Transvaal, Guienne, Persia, Senegal, Benin, Levants, obsolete, Colonials, and many other good Values. — OLIVER PRESTON, Wingham, Dover.

65 Genuine Varieties including Selangor surcharged on Straits (catalogued 2/-), India (1 rupee), Persia, Tunis, Congo, Benin, Perak, Siam, Santander, Danish India, Peru, Cyprus, Cashmere, Bogota, Bolivia, Beira, Barbados, &c., 1/1.—SMITH, Arthur-road, Kingston, Surrey. [2]

SHEETS.—Penny red plate numbers, 75 below catalogue. To each applicant, 4 different plate numbers.—LLOYD, Stowe, Lichfield. [2]

WANTED specimen numbers of Philatelic Journals. — D. C. LLOYD, Stowe Hill, Lichfield.

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HINGES.—250, 4d.; 500, 7d.; 1,000 1/2 Post Free. Approval Sheets, Packets, etc. Send for List.—THE KINGSTON STAMP CO., 44, Sykes Street, Hull.

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250 VARIETIES, 1 3 Post Free. No Duplicates. Catalogued £1.—H. COOPER, 66, Minet Avenue, Willesden, London. [2]

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TO COLLECTORS.—Wanted—English, Gambia, Gold Coast, Lagos, Sierra Leone, Western Australia, unused preferred.—F. BRADBURY, 3, India Buildings, Liverpool. [8]

CATALOGUE of Stamps for Sale sent on receipt of 2d.—MARKENHANS (of the Colony of Home and Foreign Mission), Bethel, near Bielefeld, Germany. [1]

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UNITED STATES.—Wanted, used or unused: fine horizontal pairs, particularly 1369 issue, any; 1872 issue, 7 and 24c.; also 1851, 5c. brown, single and pair; 1847, 5 and 10c. pairs.—F. HINE, 23, Croxtette Grove, Liverpool. [2]

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BREAKING up large collection. Stamps sent on Approval. State countries desired.—F. W. FRANKLIN, 34, Exchange Buildings, Birmingham. [1]

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50 STAMPS all different, 7d.; 100, 1/1; 35 really good and rare Stamps, 2/7, all post free; U.S. Columbus 1-4 cents, unused, 7d.; 1-10 cents, used, or used and unused, 1/2; 15 cents, 8d.; 30 cents, 1/3; 50 cents, 2/- all used, postage extra. Approval Sheets to those asking for same.—JMO. J. DAILLOW, 108, Brompton St., Oldham. [1]

200 GENUINE STAMPS, all different, post free, 1/- Cheap Approval Sheets, or will send on receipt of satisfactory reference, selections of Good Medium Stamps, priced low. Correspondents desired Abroad.—J. LOUIS, 159, Fortress Road, N.W. [1]

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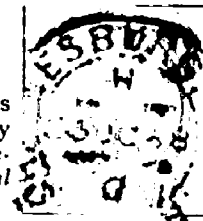
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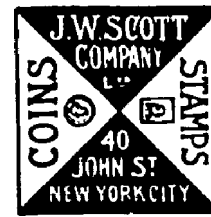
The *Whitehall Review* says, May 11th, 1895: "The Young Queen of the Netherlands and her mother, the Queen Regent, visited 'The Royal Cycle Riding School,' 61, Euston Road, where their Majesties expressed themselves delighted with the clever riding of some of the lady pupils." [20

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- 50 grana Naples
- 2/- Brown English
- 9 Craze Tuscany (white paper)
- 1 & 2 Schilling Schleswig Holstein (1850)
- 2½ Rappen Winterthur
- 1/3 G. moss-green Oldenburg

Also a Grand Selection of all Countries arranged in separate books, moderately priced, any of which can be sent on approval on receipt of satisfactory references. ⁽⁸⁾
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CEYLON 1883-4, 4 cents, rose (Gibbons' No.88) unused with gum. Catalogued 5/- **3/6**

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Lists of Wants solicited.
All letters promptly answered. [8]

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- TUSCANY, 60 crazie,
- SWEDEN, 3 and 24 skills. bco.
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- VICTORIA, 10d. grey.
- NEW BRUNSWICK, 6d. yellow.

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2½d. blue, " 7	1 6	4 0
3d. rose, " 19	10 6	17 9
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6d. lilac, " 8	4 9	9 4
6d. grey, " 8	5 3	8 11
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Periodical Sales by Auction of RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

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(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

At the St. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, Charing Cross, E.C.

DATES OF SALE.

December 12th, 13th & 31st, 1895.

January 14th, 15th, 30th & 31st. February 11th, 12th, 25th & 26th

March 11th, 12th, 24th & 25th. April 14th, 15th, 29th & 30th.

May 7th, 21st & 22nd.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, in announcing the Dates, which have already been fixed to the end of the year, beg to draw attention to the following important Sales:—

December 12th and 13th.—A very fine Collection, including Great Britain, 5/-, plate 4, unused, 10/- grey anchor, unused, 2/6 lilac on bluish, unused; Oldenburg, ½gr., black on green, unused; Saxony, 3 pfenning; Spain, 2rls. of 1852 and 1853, 19cts. of 1865; Naples, ½t., arms; Wurtemberg, 1kr. brown, with thread, unused, and 1kr. green ditto; Ceylon, 2kr. 50c., unused, with gum; Shanghai, error 1c. and pink, 1876, used; Cape woodblocks, 1d. and 4d.; Natal, 1st issue, 6d. green, unused; Transvaal, a fine lot, including many errors; Barbados, 5/- rose, unused, and 1d. on 5/-(2); B. Guiana, 1851, 4c. blue; Nevis, 4d. rose, unused and used, 6d. grey on white, pair unused with gum, 1/- green on bluish, used and unused, 1/- yellow-green, unused, 4d. yellow, litho pair, un-

used, 6d. olive, litho sheet of 12, unused, 1d. red, litho two sheets of 12, 6d. green, CA., pair, unused; St. Lucia, 1/- black on orange, pair, unused, and 1/- orange, CA., unused; St. Christopher, 1d. lilac-rose, perf. 14, fine unused pair; St. Vincent, 1/- rose, pair 5/- lake (star), 4d. ultramarine, perf. 14, 6d. green, perf. 12, 4d. on 1/-, 1d. on 6d., and ½d. on 6d., pair, all unused, with gum; Tobago, ½d. on 6d. olive block, with pair reversed surcharges, 6d. bistre, CA., pair unused; Turks Island, 1/- prune, unused, superb, and fine lot of rare surcharges; Virgin Isles, 1/-, single line border, pair and single, unused; India, first issue, 4 annas, unused showing 4 blue dividing lines and rosettes, variety with red line at side superb; New Brunswick, 1/- mauve; Newfoundland, 1/-; Nova Scotia, 1/- violet; Mexico, 1864, 3 centavos brown; New Grenada, 1862, 1 peso violet on bluish; Antioquia, 1868, 5c. green; West Australia, 6d. bronze, fine; Victoria, 2d., fine background, Registered, unused; South Australia, pair unused, 10d. on 9d., perf. 11½ x 10; West Australia, 1st issue, 4d. slate-blue, pair, and 1/- dark brown, pair, unused; Spain, 12cts. blue and pink, with centre inverted; Moldavia, 1st issue, 54 paras, superb; India, ½ annas red, and pair ½ anna, Service, three surcharges; Victoria, emblems, no wmk., 2d. lilac, rouletted; a fine collection of over 500 varieties of Russian locals and others.

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, at least one month before the date of Sale. In order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include Stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. The greatest care is requisite in the preparation of these Catalogues, so that a correct and comprehensive description of the Stamps may be given.

VALUATIONS MADE IF REQUIRED.

CATALOGUES of all Sales, and Terms, can be had on application to

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER (Philatello Department), 35, Old Jewry, LONDON, E.C.

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THE

STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
 (WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 32.—No. 6.—Vol. II. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1895. ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies:

- Cambridge University Philatelic Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.
 The Liverpool Philatelic Society. The City of London Philatelic Club. Roohdale Philatelic Society.
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Sheffield Philatelic Society.

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This is NOT the conventional article which, with its rough end, has ruined more Stamps than can be easily ascertained.

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POST FREE!



(Three-Quarter Size.)

1/-

POST FREE!

ALTHOUGH OF FIRST-CLASS WORKMANSHIP, the Price is a very popular one.

THE "UNIVERSAL" TWEEZERS have been specially designed by us for Stamp work. They close absolutely flat, and do not have the objectionable bulge seen in many tweezers. They are perfectly smooth at the ends, and are sold in neat cloth cases, which makes it possible to carry them about in the waistcoat pocket—a most important feature.

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Postage + Stamp + Catalogue

WILL be ready for delivery on December 15th. In its general make-up the Catalogue will be similar to the 55th Edition, the popularity of which was shown by the sale of 25,000 copies in less than nine months. We shall print 30,000 of the 56th edition, and we expect that we shall be forced to reprint before six months are over.

In preparing our quotations, we, of course, have taken advantage of recent publications coming from England and Germany; but we have tried, as far as possible, to avoid the errors into which our contemporaries have fallen. The prices quoted in our Catalogue will be, as far as possible, an exact reflex of the state of the Stamp Market, and no Collector can afford to be without it.

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U.S. 30c. yell.-brown due stamps (Gibbons' price 20/-) only	8	0
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" Pair of same " " " " " " " " " "	36	0
Grenada, 1882, 8d. grey, not priced in Gibbons', unused, full gum, mint state, a coming rarity..	32	0
Same stamp, like condition, with <i>inverted wmk.</i> , uncatalogued	46	0

All the above desirable bargains will be sent post free, registered, on receipt of price. Other bargains in stock, including a complete line of B.N.A. Revenues and Fiscals.

I want to replenish stock and have the ready cash at my disposal which I will exchange for any No. of the following stamps, *good specimens*, at 3/4ths Gibbons' 10th edition prices, viz.: Vancouver Island, 10c., blue, imperf.; Canada, 7½d. and 10d., 2c. rose, 17c. blue and 5c. grey; Dominica, 1/-, CA.; New Brunswick, 6d. and 1/-; Newfoundland, 6½d. vermilion, unused and Nova Scotia, 8½c. Highest prices paid for all your good duplicates of above countries. Will pay 16/- and 30/- for Canada 6c. and 15c., 1868 watermarked, respectively, and 1/- each for 1d. rose St. Lucia, 1883, in any quantity. Above stamps can be sent attached to Bank Draft, or if sent registered in the ordinary way, promise prompt remittance.

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[12

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And Will Make LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES if desired on all Stamps entrusted to their care for Sale. The Catalogue enjoys a wide Circulation in Great Britain, and on the Continent to ensure good attendances and prices.

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Price List of British Colonials

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Doings of Societies.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
SCARBOROUGH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.
NORTHAMPTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
NOTTINGHAM & DISTRICT SOCIETY.
 No reports to hand on going to press.

LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

SIXTEEN members attended the first meeting of the season, held at Effingham House on Friday, October 18th. The Vice-President, Mr. M. P. Castle, took the chair. Various publications were acknowledged with thanks. Mr. H. L. Duveen, Mr. T. W. Hall, Mr. H. Quare, Mr. William Block, Mr. J. J. Haupt, Mr. A. A. Osborne, Mr. Marshall, Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson, Mr. A. G. Griffith and Mr. F. F. Burghard were elected members of the Society. Mr. M. P. Castle read the paper compiled by himself and Mr. Ehrenbach on "The Lithographic Errors of Oldenburg." After referring to the manner in which the subject had been treated in recent German publications, the paper proceeded to explain the reasons of the writers for considering that the errors referred to were worthy of the attention of collectors. A detailed list and description of the several varieties was given, illustrated by a sheet of the original stamps, and an admirable series of photomezzotypes, which were handed round for comparison and examination. An interesting discussion ensued, in which many of the members took part; and, on the motion of Mr. Oldfield, seconded by Mr. Wickham Jones, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Castle and Mr. Ehrenbach for their most interesting and valuable paper. At the second meeting of the season, held at Effingham House, on Friday, October 25th, twelve members were in attendance. The meeting mainly occupied itself with its programme of work for the season.

The third meeting was held on Friday, November 1st, under the presidency of Major Evans, who read a paper on "The Stamped Telegraph Forms of the United Kingdom," giving a complete history of the subject dealt with so far as ascertained up to the present time. A list of all the stamps and forms referred to was appended to the paper, which was illustrated by the fine collection of the author, kindly produced by him for inspection by members present.

At the fourth meeting, held on Friday, November 8th, Mr. E. J. Nankivell read an interesting paper on "The Hingeing of Stamps," giving the reasons which had influenced him in adopting the principle of hingeing on the left side of the stamp.

CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

COMMITTEE FOR SEASON 1895-96.

Vice-Presidents:—Mr. Harry Hilckes and Mr. John J. Lane. Hon. Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent:—Mr. J. E. Joselin. Hon. Librarian:—Mr. C. Forbes. Messrs. H. A. McMillan, H. J. Bignold, Walter Morley, N. Z. Dracarchis, F. B. Carr, T. H. Thompson, L. Rockliffe, W. C. Hawkins, and (subject to his consent) H. L. Hayman.

General Secretary:—Mr. Percy C. Bishop.

Corresponding Secretary:—Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

THE first meeting at the New Headquarters, Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, Cheapside, was held on Monday, December 2nd, when seven-

teen members attended. Mr. Harry Hilckes took the chair, and the minutes of the last meeting being taken as read, Mr. C. Forbes, Hon. Corresponding Secretary, read a letter from Mr. Hastings Wright, declining with regret the presidency of the Club. Mr. Wright's many engagements the letter stated, would prevent him accepting the post, but at the same time he wished to thank the Committee and members of the Club for the honour they had sought to confer on him. Another letter read by Mr. Forbes was from Mr. G. C. Warden, accepting an Honorary Vice-Presidency of the Club.

The rules, as amended by the Rules' Committee, were discussed at some length and formally passed.

The amended rules of the Exchange Packet provoked a long and animated discussion, especially upon the rules governing the order of the circuit and the payments for stamps purchased. At length all the rules were passed, and it was resolved that the amended rules, both of the Club proper and of the Exchange Packet, should be printed in pamphlet form and circulated among the members with the least possible delay.

On the subject of the Committee, for which one more member was required, it was proposed by Mr. Morley, and seconded by Mr. Rockliffe, and carried unanimously that the number of members serving on the Committee should be raised to fifteen. Thus, five more Committee-members were required, and these were eventually selected in Mr. Walter Morley, Mr. F. B. Carr, Mr. N. Z. Dracarchis and (subject to his consent being obtained) Mr. H. L. Hayman.

Messrs. Hilckes, Padro and Rockliffe were elected as Entertainment Committee to consider ways and means in the matter of the suggested Club Smoker or Conversazione.

The meeting then became informal, and Mr. John J. Lane, our newly-elected Vice-President caused general delight by exhibiting his superb collection of British Colonials.

THE NEXT MEETING

is for Monday next, at 7.30 for 8 o'clock, at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court (64) Cheapside. A paper will be read and a most enjoyable gathering is anticipated.

BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE first meeting of the season 1895-96, was held at Markswell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, October 14th. The following programme was drawn up for the ensuing season:—

Dec. 23. Display of the Stamps of the U.S.A.
 Jan. 6. GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING, to be followed by a SUPPER.

Jan. 20. General Display.

Sir Henry Bunbury, Bart.

Feb. 3. The Stamps of Tuscany.

Mr. M. P. Castle.

Feb. 17. The Postmarked Adhesives of Great Britain. Mr. C. F. D. Marshall.

Mar. 3. General Display.

Mr. H. Stafford Smith.

Mar. 17. The Stamps of Switzerland.

Mr. Otto Pfenniger.

April 7. The Stamps of Norway.

Mr. J. W. Gillespie.

April 21. The Stamps of Bahama.

Mr. A. de Worms.

May 5. The Stamps of Parma.

Mr. M. P. Castle.

May 19. ANNUAL DINNER.

The second meeting was held at Markswell's Hotel, on Monday, 28th October. The Society's collection of forgeries was exhibited, and several members also brought to the meeting some very interesting specimens. A

curious envelope was shown by the President, franked with two copies of the Naples 2 sgr., one being genuine, and the other forged, with a genuine obliteration, the President remarking that he considered these counterfeits, which by prepaying postage had deceived Governments, were eminently collectable.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE usual fortnightly meeting was held on Wednesday, November 20th, at the Central Café, twelve members, including the chairman, Mr. G. H. Hunt, being present.

Mr. H. E. M. Rolstead, of Christiania, and Mr. Robjaunt, of Sheffield, were proposed for membership.

After the official business the chairman declared the meeting open for discussion of "speculative issues," and in his opening remarks he instanced the way in which this movement had been commenced and agitated for in the FORTNIGHTLY and other papers, until it had culminated in the "London Philaletic Society" taking the subject up and inviting the leading dealers and others to co-operate with them. He considered it a very difficult question now-a-days to determine with the many modern issues, what to collect and what to leave alone. The discussion afterwards became lively and interesting, many varied opinions being expressed by Messrs. Chapman, Abenheimer, Peace, Brahmah, Bradley, Hawley, Pike, Taylor, and wound up by the secretary, who in his remarks suggested that as each speaker was more or less in favour of the suppression of those unnecessary pieces of printed paper it would be wise, and also help to make the discussion of practical utility if the Society would support by subscriptions the S.S.S.S. This suggestion was taken up and by a unanimous vote it was decided that the Secretary forward the necessary subscription.

R. H. Sneath, Hon. Sec., 166 Devonshire Street, Sheffield.

ROCHDALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE second meeting of the present Session was held on Thursday, the 28th ult., when a short paper on the Stamps of Great Britain was read by the Secretary, to whom a vote of thanks was unanimously passed, the Secretary promising to read Papers dealing more minutely with English Stamps later on during the season. For the next meeting, on the 12th inst., a Paper on the Stamps of the United States, by the President was promised.

E. Hegibottom, Hon. Sec., Woodfield, Rochdale.

EDINBURGH AND LEITH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Society held an exhibition of Postage Stamps in the rooms of the Bible Society, on Saturday, November 16th, 1895. The attendance was only "fair," owing to the bad state of the weather.

Among the chief exhibits and exhibitors were:—Bavaria, India, Hong Kong, Lagos, Sierra Leone, Barbados, Jamaica, and Early N.S.W., by Mr. F. G. Gillespie. Denmark, Hayti, Illustrated German Post Cards and Envelopes used during the Franco-Prussian War, by Mr. W. Kevin. German Empire, by Mr. W. Kühn. Great Britain, by Mr. Kerr. £5 on blue, by Mr. J. McKay. Unused pair of V.R.'s and Mulreadys unused and unfolded, by Mr. F. Barnard. Unused blocks of old Plate Numbers, etc., and frame of Forgeries, by Mr. J. Mackay. £5 on white and others, by Mr. Christie. Reconstructed Plate of 1d. black, red Maltese Cross obliteration, 1d. black all known varieties and V.R., Mulreadys U.S.A. complete, by Mr. J. Walker. Three

In the Press.

Will be Ready in January.

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MESSRS. BRIGHT & SON'S CATALOGUE will be issued in a convenient size, viz.: 6½ by 4½ inches, and will consist of over 600 pages, fully illustrated. The Catalogue will be printed from entirely new type, specially bought for the purpose, and in point of clearness will be superior to any Catalogue ever published. The Illustrations will be in the very best style, and will, with few exceptions, be PHOTOGRAPHIC REPRODUCTIONS OF THE ORIGINAL STAMPS, ETC.

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. . . HELD BY . . .

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER,

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

At the St. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, Charing Cross, E.C.

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1896 Jan. 2nd, 14th, 15th, 30th & 31st. Feb. 11th, 12th, 25th & 26th.
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May 7th, 21st & 22nd.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, in announcing the Dates, which have already been fixed to the end of this season, beg to draw attention to the following important Sales:—

January 2nd.—A fine, general selection, including the following:—
Great Britain, 4d., medium garter, on white, unused, in mint state; entire unused sheets of early Heligolands; Grenada, 1d.

on 1½d., inverted surcharge; Nova Scotia, 1/- superb; Newfoundland, 2d. carmine, superb, 6d., 6½d. and 8d. carmine, 4d. orange, superb; Wurtemberg, a fine lot of used and unused; Saxony, 3 pfgr.; double Geneva; Tobago, 6d. ochre, CA., used; Nevis, 1st issue, used and unused; New Zealand, 1862, 2d. blue, serrated perf. on piece of original; Trinidad, 1st issue, unused, in blocks, pairs, etc.; rare Tobago provisionals, in blocks; Cape Wood-blocks; Oldenburg, complete, including a superb ½sgr. black on green; a grand lot of Sydneys; Brunswick, 1st issue, 2sgr., unused; Canada, 6d. green, 6d. perf. and 10d. blue, unused, and in mint condition; several fine unused sets, with gum of early Europeans; St. Vincent, 1/- blue, unused, block of 4.

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, at least one month before the date of Sale. In order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include Stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. The greatest care is requisite in the preparation of these Catalogues, so that a correct and comprehensive description of the Stamps may be given.

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Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM," LONDON. Telephone Number, 15,076. ESTABLISHED 1761.

The STAMP COLLECTORS' PORTNIGHTLY.

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,
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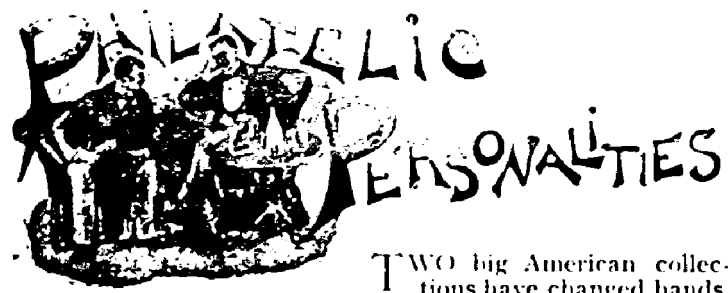
With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."
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HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

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 The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.
 Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 32.—No. 6.—Vol. II. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1895. ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	63
More Western Australian Provisionals	63
Gossip of the Hour	64
Philately at Home	64
Philatelic Events	65
The Secret Marks of the Stamps of Switzerland	65
Hilckes' Enquiry Bureau Announcements	66
City of London Philatelic Club	67
Philately Abroad	67
Between Ourselves	68
A Chat with Mrs. Scott Stokes	69
Answers to Correspondents	70
Our Review of Reviews	71
Auction Supplement	73



TWO big American collections have changed hands.

That of Don Henrique Fernandez, rich in pairs and blocks of Columbian Republic, has been acquired by Mr. Frank P. Brown, of Boston, and that of Mr. William Thorne, of New York, has been sold to some dealer unnamed for (it is said) the huge price of £10,000!

STAMP collectors are reminded by Dr. William H. Mitchell, a contributor to *Mickel's Weekly*, that the recently deceased Eugene Field was the author of that bright little "pome," "Good-bye, Old Stamp, Good-bye."

MR. C. P. KRAUTH, whose A.P.A. Convention paper on "Mechanical Aids to Philately" caused such a flutter in American stamp circles, is turning his inventive notions to practical account. A Yankee firm of manufacturers will

shortly put his "Philatoscope" on the market, and this will be quickly followed up by the "Philatometer." Show these big words, dear readers, to your non-philatelic friends. Who shall say now that philately is not a science?

BILL NYE, the great American humorist, uses a special envelope in his correspondence, which he terms "Bill Nye's private post," but adds that it is no go unless it has Uncle Sam's regulation stamps affixed. The wording and inscriptions on the special cover are unique, and he asks the recipient to carefully inspect the inside sheet only, as the reading on the outside is for the gratification and pleasure of Uncle Sam's postal servants.

THINK of a collection of U.S. Adhesives and Departmentals all unused and in blocks of four! This is what Mr. Slater, of Providence, U.S.A., has, with the exception of two stamps.

HERR VON FERRARY has been in London for the last week or so on a search for philatelic rarities, but from what we learn his harvest is not such a big one as usual. Rare stamps are hard to find, and no mistake.

WE hear that Mr. M. P. Castle has been ill for the last few days, but we sincerely hope that it is only a passing indisposition.

More Western Australian Provisionals.

OUR correspondent at Perth, (Western Australia), writes under date 5th November, 1895:—"I may perhaps mention that I have it on good authority that the present supply of 3d. stamps is running short. The Government has cabled to England for fresh supplies, but it is not expected that the present supply will last. Consequently a provisional issue will have to be made, and I believe it is intended to surcharge the 2½d. stamp. The provisional issue will of necessity be of very short duration. Very few people are aware of the above, as the Post Office officials do not wish to have the trouble of surcharging, and are keeping it quiet and trying to avoid it."



BY ALFRED JINGLE.

MY dear friend and fellow-sinner, the Review Co-Editor of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, being in sad trouble, appeals to his readers to help him out of it. He tells them that "many kindly appreciations and criticisms in sundry languages and from divers lands," approve of the lines on which he runs the business of Review Co-Editor: but a wicked bogie in the shape of "an eminent journalist, known to the world of stamps for his equal knowledge of philately and journalism," has popped up, jack-in-the-box fashion, and unsettled the distinguished linguist to such an extent, that he is not sure whether, after all, it is not better to take to "the scissors and paste pot in their rude simplicity." Says he, "Scissors or pen? Criticism or cuttings, which shall it be?" or, in other words,

To clip, or not to clip,—that is the question:—
Whether 'tis better at Kenley to suffer
The throes of original composition,
Or, by snipping 'scape them? To scratch,—to pump,—
No more;—and, by clipping, to say we end
The headache, and the thousand natural shocks
"Old Files" are heir to,—'tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wished.

I note that an American journal announces that the first wholesale lot of Stanley Gibbons' Catalogues, consigned to the Bogert and Durbin Co., was seized by the Custom House because of the illustrations of U.S. stamps. That is bad news, especially to Mr. Castle who wants to sell his beautifully illustrated edition of Gilbert Harrison's work on the Envelopes of the United States. If the sale of books containing illustrations of U.S. Stamps is to be barred where is it to stop? Will it extend also to the periodicals. If it does, American collectors will be at a serious disadvantage.

But it is all of a piece with the crass wooden headedness of the official mind. Pass a law to prevent forgery and the official immediately runs his brainless pate against harmless illustrations.

I guess friend Wilson will catch it hot for pitching into the West Indian gang. They are sure to roast him, and tell him that he only wants to divert attention from some of our best Colonials to the Mexican rubbish of which he has a full supply. But Wilson knows his philatelic book, and it will take a clever lot to dust his coat in a discussion on market prices.

Still I must admit I can't help feeling that "W. T." is a bit of a Cassandra. He has for years been shaking his head over the abnormally high prices which "Sydney Views" fetch, and yet Sydney Views are still bounding.

W. T.'s position in regard to the question of rarity, is the position which every true philatelist would like to see established for genuine rarities, namely, that a rare stamp is one of which few copies exist.

Unfortunately, fashion steps in and says, "No! I decree that fortune shall follow those stamps which I favour," and you might quote cases by the score in proof of the lamentable fact that fashion, and not number printed, determines the market appreciation of rarity.

Mr. Wilson recommends specialists to abandon so-called fashionable stamps, and search elsewhere for countries to specialise. He suggests Argentine, Bolivia, Brazil and Chili. Now, Mr. Editor, now is your chance to generate good "copy" by raising a discussion on the question. Which, for specializing purposes, is the best of the neglected countries?



A ROWLAND HILL CENTENARY

SIR ROWLAND HILL, it seems, was born on Dec. 3rd, 1795, so that the Tuesday before last was the hundredth anniversary of a most interesting event in English history. To commemorate this important centenary the *Monthly Journal* will give in its next number "Some very interesting documents connected with the history of Sir Rowland Hill's plans of 1837, and more especially with his proposals of the use of stamps, adhesive and other, as a means of carrying those plans into effect." But when is the James Chalmers centenary coming? Doubtless we shall not hear quite so much about that.

A QUESTION EASILY DISPOSED OF.

"WHAT should the Postage Stamp commemorate?" asks the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*. "Nothing!" retorts Major Evans. And the Major is right. The postage stamp should simply pay postage.

SOMERSET HOUSE v. UPCOTT GILL.

It is stated that the Inland Revenue Authorities, dissatisfied with the result of their case against Mr. J. Upcott Gill, have exercised their right of appeal, and that an interesting struggle in the Law Courts may be anticipated.

AUSTRALIAN STAMP ELECTROS.

MR. C. T. REED, of Manchester Square Mansions, Dorset Street, W., writes: "Some little time since I imported a number of electros of Australian stamps, for the purpose of illustrating my price list. These were detained by the Custom House Authorities and were only delivered to me on my guaranteeing that they were to be used for a legitimate purpose. I thought no more of the matter and had my list printed. The electros were returned to me and were on my office table, when two gentlemen called, who proved to come from the Inland Revenue Department relative to the above-mentioned blocks, the Inland Revenue having been informed of the matter by the Customs. The moment these gentlemen saw the electros they seized the lot. Of course I protested, but was simply referred to the solicitors of the department. A lot of correspondence passed, and I had to attend at Somerset House, but the end of it was, that I was given my choice of being prosecuted for the possession of the blocks from which Colonial postage stamps could be printed, or quietly surrendering my right to the same and undertaking not to offend again in like manner. I did not care to undertake the legal expense of fighting the matter out, so chose the latter alternative. Surely a matter of such importance to Philatelists ought to be settled definitely one way or another?"

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 32c. ROSE.

MESSRS. WHITEFIELD KING & Co., write: "With further reference to the 32c. rose Straits Settlements stamp, we find we made a mistake in our last communication on this subject. The pane of 60 stamps left unsurcharged in error, is the top left hand corner pane and not the lower one. Please therefore delete the fourth paragraph of our letter and oblige."

SECRET MARKS OF OLDENBURG.

WE have just concluded an arrangement with Messrs. Senf Bros. to translate for the FORTNIGHTLY, an admirable series of articles on the Secret Marks of Oldenburg Stamps, by

You cannot afford to do without the "S.C.F."

Freiherr C. von Girssewald, who has so favourably introduced himself to our readers as the author of our articles on the Secret Marks of Switzerland.

WANTED FOR PHILATELIC FRAUD.

SOME time ago a gentleman called to show us a few very rare stamps, which were marked at remarkably low prices. He gave the name of Guillain, and described himself as a dealer of Ostend. We now read in our *L'Annonce Timbrologique*, that Guillain, whose full name is Guillain Delatour, is urgently wanted for the following ingenious fraud. He sold a Swiss Stamp, purporting to be a 4c. Vaud, but the specimen proved on examination to be a copy of the 5c. value with the "5" erased and replaced by a "4." Delatour also offers the early Brazils with forged perforations, forged British Gumas on entire envelope, and U.S.A. Periodicals, these last being proofs thinned down and gummed and perforated to represent the original stamps. Following is a description of this philatelic *chevalier d'industrie*.—He is about 5 feet 6 inches in height, wears a muffer, is of very "professional" appearance and has a light beard, cleared round the mouth. He speaks only French, but is generally accompanied by an interpreter, a gentleman who wears an imposing military moustache.

"MULTUM IN PARVO" FROM MR. HADLOW.

THE Price Booklet just issued by Mr. W. Hadlow well merits the description of "multum in parvo" which appears upon its title page. The book deals with English plate numbers, British Colonials, and Mr. Hadlow's speciality, the Stamps of Queensland.

MR. WARBURG'S "STAMPS OF EGYPT."

WE detect great promise in the little book on the Stamps of Egypt, which forms the first volume of Mr. Robert Croome's "Stamp Collectors' Library." The printing is poor, and one somehow yearns for a picture or two to relieve the wilderness of letterpress. But we must not expect too much for four humble pennies. Mr. Warburg, the author of the little book has taken infinite pains, and has produced an essay which is not a mere compilation of catalogued varieties like some so-called philatelic works we wot of.

ENGLISH 1d. BLACK—REPRINT.

WE notice in the Philatelic Supplement to the *Bazaar*, dated 2nd December, a somewhat eulogistic article by Mr. Ridley on the English 1d. black reverse crown (Reprint?), which gave us the impression that the author intended to bring this stamp before the special notice of collectors of English stamps. Although we totally disagree with the writer, we made very careful enquiries once more and we have come to the conclusion that this stamp is not worthy the attention of the serious philatelist. In the first place, although printed in black, and although it looks almost like the first issue, it has nothing whatever to do with that issue as it is printed from the second retouch die. Five sheets were so printed and we believe we are right in saying that one sheet was handed to the Prince of Wales, one to the Duke of Connaught, one to Princess Clementine the daughter of the King of Belgium, and one to the Emperor of Germany. The fifth sheet was kept at Somerset House. It is quite right that owing to the regulations existing at the Post Office, that stamps once printed from an approved plate may at any time be used for postage, these stamps are still available for letters. But in the case of the four sheets, they were of course handed to Royal personages without the Government receiving an equivalent. The fifth sheet is kept by the storekeeper at Somerset House, and we believe that most of the stamps which have recently seen the light of day emanate from this sheet, the storekeeper simply being accountable to his superiors for the face value of the stamps and not for the stamps themselves, that being the amount with which the Post Office has debited Somerset House. It is now quite likely that some of the officials of Somerset House asked the storekeeper to let them have some of these stamps, paying face value for them. But, and this is the crucial point, the stamps were not issued for sale, were never meant to be sold, and therefore must on no account be put on a par with the ordinary issues of Great Britain. It may not even aspire to the "honoured" name of Reprint, as in that case it should

have been printed from the first die and *not* from the second die. It is not an essay, and can at best only be considered a colour proof, struck off for some official purpose. We hope this explanation will once and for all set the matter at rest, put the proper value to a stamp which is and has been largely over valued. 2 or a copy is ample.

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING DEC. 28th.

Auction Sales.

Jan. 28th and 29th.—Messrs. Pattick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W., at 6 p.m. precisely.

Jan. 2nd & 14th. Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Hall, Charing Cross, at 5 p.m. each day.

Stamping Collection.

The following countries are now on view in the King's Library, British Museum: St. Vincent, Tobago, Trinidad, Turks Islands, Virgin Islands, Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone.

City of London Club.

Fortnightly Meetings at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, E.C., every Monday following publication of "S.C.F." at 7.30 p.m.

The Secret Marks of The Stamps of Switzerland—1843-1854.

This article was first published in 1893 by A. Larich, of Munich; the author, Freiherr C. v. Girssewald has kindly revised the German work for the special benefit of the readers of the "S. C. F."]

TRANSLATED BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 30.)

THE GENERAL ISSUE OF STAMPS FOR SWITZERLAND.

1. Ortspost. 2. Poste Locale. 3. Rayon.

I. II. III.

This issue was in use from April, 1850 to October, 1854. The type of all the stamps is the same, differing only in the inscription, the value, and the combination of colour; many subtypes will be noticed. The stamps have the shape of an upright rectangle.

Ortspost.

a. 2½ rappen, black and red, without frame around cross, 40 types.
b. 2½ rappen, black and red, with frame around cross, 40 types.

In the centre of the stamp is the Swiss coat of arms, a white cross on a red field, with highly ornamented frame; on this frame rests a post horn. Over this again, in a curved scroll, is the inscription Orst-Post; below it on the left 2½, on the right P.P. The stamps were printed in panes of 40 each, representing so many different types, four such panes made a sheet of 160 stamps.

The commonest of the Ortspost stamps is the one with the black frame around the cross.

It is difficult to explain this frame and its omission. The mystery will never be wholly cleared until original documents are found relating to this. Three opinions have been advanced as follows:—

Some say that the stamps were first issued without the frame round the cross. It was then noticed that the white cross on the red field did not stand out clearly enough, and to remedy this a black frame was introduced, and the plates changed accordingly; the proof of this would be the large number of such stamps found with early dates. Others give the reverse explanation and say the frame around the cross was taken away from the plates as contrary to true heraldry. That this was the case could be seen from many stamps in which slight traces of such a frame still remain. Again, very many of these unframed stamps are found on letters together with the Rayon stamps, which were issued two

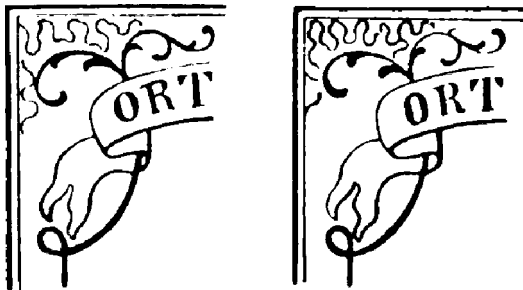
We hardly think so.

years after the Ortspost. The late date is then made to prove the opposite theory here. Still other people say that both kinds were issued at the same time and used indiscriminately, but that the stamps without the frame round the cross were used much longer in small towns where there was but a limited demand for stamps.

We cannot tell which is the correct view. According to my opinion too much importance has been given to this point, which has led to many bitter controversies.

There are in existence 40 types of each of these two different kinds, and their differences are to be found in their inscription, their value, but especially in the design of their arabesque ornament.

Mr. Adolph Schultze was the first one who succeeded in the very difficult undertaking of preparing a correct type table of the stamps of this issue. He has often told me himself, with much pride, how very difficult a task it proved to be. First he noticed several differences in the design; indeed, two stamps hanging together were always found to be different, and then he went to work to rebuild from a large quantity of specimens a complete sheet of this issue. Large number of blocks of 4 or 6 of such are not to be found, and it was with very scanty material and with an inexhaustible supply of patience that Mr. Schultze went to work. As usual the first steps were the most difficult, but with time the thing was done successfully. A sheet consists of 5 horizontal rows, each containing 8



stamps; as we have said before, the inscriptions and the figures denoting the value have differences, but the various types cannot be classified by these. The stamps are classified according to their arabesque designs. I have adopted Mr. Schultze's method in full and always classify the stamps according to the upper left hand corner. The above cut illustrates the corners of the 4th and 5th stamps in the 3rd row, showing plainly how very different the lines are which fill this corner, and all the types have such marked differences. In cases where the cancellation mark covers this corner, or in which the print is not clear other parts of the stamp are to



be chosen where the lines can be plainly seen. The classification of types show a good deal of practice; and a great help is found in the photographs of these plates of which some very good ones have been

published.

The existence of so many types renders the recognition of a genuine stamp quite difficult, but it is at the same time the very best test of its genuineness.

Most counterfeits are poorly done; the value 2½ and the Rp. are too large; the mouth-piece of the horn in all originals is wider than the neck. Counting from right to left there are in the horn 4 groups of lines numbering respectively 2, 3, 3, 2 lines. The line next to the mouth-piece is wanting in most types, and in forgeries these groups are incorrect. This horn however can be a sure guide only when it does not agree with any of the 40 types. Most forgeries are also unsuccessfully postmarked.

2. Poste Locale.

April, 1850.

2½ Rp., black and red, without frame around the cross, 40 types.

2½ Rp., black and red, with frame around the cross, 40 types.

The design of the Poste Locale stamps is very similar to the preceding one; the upper inscription differs, being "Poste Locale" instead of Ortspost.

(To be continued).

Announcements of Hilckes' Enquiry Bureau.

THE publication of autographs of various individuals, or, rather let us say, the one party who works under various aliases, has brought us a mass of correspondence, from which we pick the following:

Alex. Ross.—This gentleman is writing from the Rue Marsollier 49, Paris, answering advertisements which appeared in the *Bazaar*, and, in addition to the usual rigmarole, he throws out the special bait of submitting any stamps sent to him to the members of the French Philatelic Societies. Of course, once he receives the stamps nothing further is heard. We append his autograph, which absolutely corresponds with that of D'Avricourt.

For the early Vic. & N.S. please reserve a few for me; it is just the kind of stamps I want for my collection.
Yours truly
Alex. Ross.

George Donaldson. This time the gentleman hails from 16a, Dean Street, London; but his references are identical with those mentioned under the name of Dodson and are, of course, absolutely bogus. He always banks with the London and County—at least, he says so! the London and County knowing nothing whatever about the gentleman. One letter we hold in which he has the impudence to give as reference the solicitors to the Bank of England—Messrs. Freshfield; but in each case he answers advertisements he has seen in the *Bazaar*; we also append the autograph of this gentleman, which corresponds in character with that of Dodson.

*Worth of stamps and upwards
course of the present*

Yours truly
George Donaldson

[We would esteem it a favour if readers would communicate with us in every case where they have reason to believe that they are being fleeced. We shall investigate every case submitted to us.]

STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ABROAD.

FROM all indications West Indians are booming quite as merrily in the States as here.

"The S.S.S.S. tommy rot" is a phrase used, without any attempt at justification, by the *Bay State Philatelist*. Less abuse and more argument would be appreciated, we think, by the *B.S.P.'s* readers.

The day is near when the "cut square" envelope will be to the entire what the "cut to shape" is now to the "cut square."—*Mekel's Weekly*.

City of London Philatelic Club.

HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Philatelic Record (Oct. and Nov.), *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, *The Stamp Collectors' Journal*, *Monthly Offers*, *A. Smith & Son's Monthly Circular*.

From France: *Revue Philatelique*, *Le Moniteur du Collectionneur*.

From Germany: *General Anzeiger für Philatelie*, *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt*.

From Austria: *Welt Post*.

From Spain: *El Heraldo Timbrologico*.

From United States: *The Post Office*, *The Metropolitan Philatelist*, *The Boston Stamp Book* (Nos. 1 to 5), *The Bay State Philatelist* (Nos. 1 to 6), *The American Philatelic Magazine*, *The Evergreen State Philatelist*, *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*, *The Postal Cards Society's Monthly Bulletin*, *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News* (four Nos.)

From Mexico: *El Monitor Filatelico*.

From Buenos Ayres: *El Filatelista Sud-Americano*.

Mr. C. Forbes also thanks Mr. L'Estrange Ewen for a bound copy of his Catalogue of English Stamps.

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The next meeting of the Club will be held on Monday, 16th December, at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, E.C., at 7.30 p.m., when a paper on "THE REMAINDERS OF THE LEEWARD ISLAND STAMPS," with production of the entire official correspondence, kindly lent by Mr. T. H. Thompson, will be read by Mr. Harry Hilekes.

Mr. John J. Lane, Vice-President, will exhibit the remainder of his fine collection of West Indians, also the stamps of the United States. Great interest was evinced by the members in the first part of his collection of West Indians, showed at the last meeting, which contained some exceedingly fine copies of many of the rarer stamps.



THE PHILATELIST'S "CONFIDING FRIEND."

AN amazing piece of philatelic wrong doing has been brought to light here, writes the Chicago correspondent of *Mekel's Weekly*. It seems that a collector of the city, whose reputation, according to rumour, is a little unsavoury, secured a loan of over £40, giving as security for his note, a collection of stamps which he represented as being worth much more than the amount borrowed. The gentleman making the loan knew nothing whatever about stamps. A short time after, by chance, he passed a dealer's place, and later he called with the collection and was informed that it was worth scarcely £3!

QUITE A PHILATELIC ROMANCE.

SOME eight years ago the collection of Mr. Nathaniel O. Kidder, of Newton, Mass., U.S.A., was stolen by burglars. The collection was a valuable one, and Mr. Kidder becoming discouraged, abandoned collecting. It happened that Mr. F. Trifet, the Boston dealer, had supplied most of the stamps, and when a man came into his office a few weeks ago, offering certain stamps for sale, he recognised some of them as having belonged to the Kidder collection. An arrest followed,

and a valuable lot of stolen goods was recovered, including the entire collection of Mr. Kidder.

Reports in the American newspapers give the value of the collection at \$6,000.

THE EARLY CRITIC ON THE WAR PATH.

It is becoming the fate of every stamp catalogue to be somewhat severely handled by the critics, but the 50th edition of the Scott Stamp & Coin Company's work is suffering the unique fate of being pulled to pieces before it appears. This is one of the penalties of turning an honest dollar or so by selling advance sheets. That breezy little weekly, the *Philatelic Era*, has gone hot and strong for the Scott people on the score of inconsistency, but from the reply of the New York firm it seems to an impartial observer that there is not much to be said on either side. For our part we shall wait until we get our "Scott" entire, and then we fear (and hope also) that we shall not find much that can be assailed. From all accounts, the cry is still "excelsior," and very much so, in the matter of prices for good U.S.A. stamps. A notable instance of this, the *Era* tells us, is the 90c. Justice stamp, which is marked in the current "Scott" at \$25, but in the revised proofs of the forthcoming edition figures at \$60. Not a cent too much, either, for 41 copies!

ONE WAY OF GETTING STAMPS!

MASS and strange are the devices adapted by American collectors to get hold of "postage due" stamps which are not obtainable by the public at post offices. We read in an American paper that a package weighing 125 pounds was sent by letter post from New York to Raleigh, North Carolina, having on it only a 2c. stamp. The dues amounted to nearly \$50, and this amount was readily paid by the addressee. But the gem of the story is to come: the package contained old shoes!

SOMETHING FOR THE S.S.S.S. TO NOTE.

It has been reported in New York that the post office officials at Washington, D.C., will supply to all comers the \$2, \$3, \$4, and \$5 Columbians, having purchased all those which were still on hand and in the possession of the American Bank Note Co., and will sell rather than destroy them.

A MYSTERY SOLVED. - A CANADIAN STAMP "LAUNDRY."

GEORGE BROWN AND RICHARD SADDLER, of Toronto, were "gathered" in (as the American reporter puts it) by the police of that city on Oct. 21st, with the charge registered against them of cleaning and disposing of postage stamps. Their arrest was the result of a clever piece of work by Detectives Harrison and Ross. Information was received by Ross on the 21st ult., which led him to believe that Saddler was engaged in the business of selling revived stamps to a dealer. Harrison and he concealed themselves, with the knowledge of the dealer, in the latter's store, and on Saddler's entrance to offer stamps for sale arrested him. He had with him a number of stamps that had been cleaned.

Upon his arrest Saddler let drop some remarks which led to the arrest of Brown, whose residence was accordingly searched, with the result that more than \$500 worth of "laureated" stamps were found in a valise in one of the bedrooms. The greater part of the stamps were Canadian, but there were also many English and American.

The work of cleaning had been cleverly done, those that had been put through the process having every appearance of genuineness, except when closely examined. The first difference apparent between them and new stamps is their faded appearance. When held to the light and minutely examined traces of the cancellation stamp can be discerned.

Many stamp dealers around town have been wondering for some time past how certain persons could afford to pay sixty cents per thousand for common Canadian stamps, while the great majority could not pay half that price. But the mystery is now solved.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, DECEMBER 14, 1895.



BETWEEN OURSELVES.

Is the course of a paper on "Fashionable Stamps," appearing in the current issue of the *London Philatelist*, Mr. W. T. Wilson deals at some length with the proportionate values of the Leeward Islands Stamps. He ridicules the high prices which have recently been realised for some of the values, maintaining that from the numbers sold among the remainders such prices are not warranted. As we are preparing an exhaustive statement regarding the position of these most interesting stamps, we shall only go so far as to assure our readers that the argument Mr. Wilson brings to bear upon this question is a totally erroneous one. He states, for instance, that 1,428 Dominica stamps of the one shilling value, C.A. watermark, were sold among the remainders; but he has made a mistake. Seven hundred and fifty-four of this number happened to be "C.C.'s" and only 774 had the C.A. watermark. Considering now that such a number of C.C.'s were still in stock when the remainders were sold and also considering that it is unlikely that a large number of the C.A.'s would be printed with a stock of C.C.'s still on hand, it is fairly safe to say that not more than 1,000 copies of the 1s. C.A. were ever issued. The price of £5 realised at auction is therefore fully warranted by the scarcity of the stamp. The very fact that used copies are hardly ever met with goes a long way towards proving the stamp's scarcity. A similar instance is the 6d. St. Christopher olive green, of which Mr. Wilson states 2,505 were included in the remainders sold to Messrs. Thompson. Here, again, Mr. Wilson has forgotten to take any account of the C.C.'s, and he may take it from us that less than half the quoted number (1,217 in fact) of the C.A. variety were included in the Crown Agent's stock. And in this instance, too, we think it extremely unlikely that more than 1,500 copies were ever issued, always remembering that a large stock of the previous issue was still on hand. Buyers of stamps, especially those who invest, are very cute, and know far more about what they buy than any dealer can teach them. If therefore the buyers all over the world drop upon one stamp it may safely be said that they have good reason for doing so, and there is no necessity to make those feel uneasy who are professional investors; and there can be no doubt that the article in question is written with a view to discredit the values attained by certain Leeward Islands Stamps.

We will add that out of the 774 of the 1s. Dominica, C.A., which were included in the remainders, 400 are now in one hand in New York, and that hand has agreed to keep the stamps for twenty years. The stamps are held in fact by a syndicate, who knew about the scarcity of the stamp long before the investors in this country. This may be letting the cat out of the bag a little, but we think it is the only way in which to effectively counteract the misleading arguments of Mr. Wilson, whom we greatly esteem as a thorough and painstaking philatelist, but who in this case has been led away by superficial figures.

We are indebted for the figures in this article to Mr. T. H. Thompson, so that readers may rest assured that every particular is well authenticated. H.H.

* * *

How often will a philatelic writer "run past himself," to use the expressive vernacular of the street gamin, in his desire to maintain the correctness of his own attitude in a philatelic controversy. Concerning Colonial Postmarks. Major Evans runs past himself to an alarming extent in the current issue of the *Monthly Journal*. On the vexed question of the collectability of certain Colonial stamps according to postmark, the Major takes hold of a small chunk of his FORTNIGHTLY, dumps it down on paper, and proceeds to chaff it out of court in his own inimitable way. In a recent number, on the subject of Colonial postmarks we wrote:—"For instance, the provisional Antigua was issued and sold also in St. Kitts. The postmarks for the two islands are respectively A 02 and A 12. The presence of this latter postmark on one of these stamps is absolutely the only mark by which it can be identified as coming from St. Kitts—Q.E.D."

The comment of Major Evans upon that little philatelic theorem is, in effect, "Oh yes, quite right, and in the same way a knowledge of English postmarks will enable you to distinguish between a stamp used at Birmingham and another hailing from Manchester." But where is the analogy in this? The stamps of Birmingham and the stamps of Manchester are identical, but this was not the case with Antigua and St. Kitts at the period of which we write. "What possible difference does it make in the stamp?" asks Major Evans. It makes all the difference in the world. To be precise, the difference it makes is this: that the Antigua stamp of that particular issue, if postmarked A 12, is a stamp of St. Christopher, whereas if postmarked A 02, it is a stamp of Antigua. Continuing, Major Evans says, "The postmarks will, we believe, still tell us at which of the islands any of the current Leeward Islands stamps are used; are we to collect and catalogue them still under Antigua, Dominica, &c. &c.? A line must be drawn somewhere." Of course it must, and we should think it is sufficiently plain where it should be drawn. The Leeward Islands are now one State, so far as stamps are concerned, and as the same stamp could be carried from one island to another, and used at any one of them, just as an English stamp may be purchased in London and used in the Hebrides, it would be manifestly absurd to differentiate in the way Major Evans suggests. There is one uncontrovertible point in Major Evans's article, and that is the assertion that an unused copy of the Antigua stamp sold in St. Kitts would be indistinguishable from an unused copy sold in Antigua. But this merely illustrates a trifling disadvantage from which all collectors of unused stamps suffer.

* * *

Is there no way of protecting collectors against these continual petty frauds, which are engineered by one or two parties under a number of "Dishonest Collectors." "aliases." Months ago it was stated that the Committee of the P.P.A. being in new hands practical results might be expected; but so far, although we believe the Committee are honestly trying to work, that which they may easily do they prefer not to do.

For some weeks past post cards and letters have been handed to us, similar to those which we published in the last

two numbers of the "S.C.F.," and as a direct consequence of our last number we received on the 3rd December a letter from Mr. W. H. Maunder as follows:—

DEAR SIRS,—The "S.C.F." arrived with its usual regularity, and the enclosed card came next post. Thanks to the "S.C.F." this gentleman will not get anything from me, but I think he would have had I not seen his autograph in your paper. Yours faithfully,

W. H. MAUNDER.

And the next day we received a letter from Mr. Davis, of Deptford, to the following effect:—

Re D'AVRICOURT.

This evening I received the enclosed post card from the above gentleman and was just about to write to him, when I remembered seeing his name in your valuable paper. You will notice that the references he mentions corresponds with those published by you, but the addresses are quite different; but curiously enough he concludes by making mention of his bank.

Before concluding I should like to return you my best thanks for saving me from falling into this trap. Wishing your paper every success,
Believe me to remain, yours faithfully,

JOHN W. DAVIS.

The post cards accompanying the two letters were of the same contents as the one photographed in our last number, under the name of D'Avricourt. It is merely a question of extradition. Warrants are taken out, and the man could be arrested at once, but no one will find the funds to bring the man over. The P.P.A., established for this work, refuses to act. It will simply come to this, that if the P.P.A. will not give assurance to assist in these cases, the collectors of this country will have to combine and form a strong committee in opposition to the P.P.A. What is the use of a body which does absolutely nothing and charges two guineas for doing it. Dealers, inspired by spite and jealousy, don't move, and collectors hold back as they don't wish to be mixed up with any "proceedings." All the while the philatelic rogue makes a big harvest. We have written to the new Secretary of the P.P.A., but he courteously informs us, unofficially, that he does not think the Committee would act in co-operation with us. Meanwhile we open our columns for discussion on this question, and shall be very happy to receive suggestions from our readers as to how to put a stop to this crying evil. H.H.

* * *

It is a well-known fact among continental philatelists that the Austrian Mercury Stamps are only recognised at their true value in Vienna, and the experts worth the name of experts in this case are the shining lights of the Vienna Philatelic Society. Owing to the large number of reprints, forgeries, and the like, of these particular stamps the Vienna Society as sent us the following letter:—

DEAR MR. HILCKES,—In consequence of the many doubts which have recently been raised about the yellow, rose, and vermilion "Mercuries," the undersigned Society has decided to offer its services as an Expert Committee for these stamps. We are quite willing to examine every stamp *gratis*, even if they are sent by non-members, provided that they are forwarded by registered post, accompanied by return registration fee, to the following address: "Oesterischer Philatelisten Klub, Vienna I, Wallner-strasse, 15." All envelopes should be marked, "Expert Committee."

Yours faithfully, for the Society,

JOHN SIEBERTH, *First Hon. Sec.*

* * *

THE auction difficulty is still with us, albeit its form is changed. There are too many auctions, and the way auctioneers have of acting in a dual capacity is still the cause of much annoyance and irritation. Since the opening of the season we have received quite a number of letters dealing with this and other phases of the philatelic auction question. Reform seems to be needed most urgently, but, having in mind the feeling of irritation aroused by our agitation against auctioneering abuses last year, we have hesitated to re-open our columns to the discussion of these matters. However, we see that there is urgent need of some alteration in the conditions of philatelic auctioneering, and we shall welcome any expressions of opinion that our readers care to indite.

A Chat with Mrs. Scott Stokes.

(Of the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.)

WE were having a tête-à-tête in the sanctum of the Pioneer Club, and had discussed our last night's debate (on the need of a little wholesome neglect for the modern child), rational dress, the foolishness of women cyclists racing, and half a score of things besides, when I saw my opportunity to "draw" Mrs. Stokes on her own speciality.



"What are your views on the future of stamp collecting?" I began.

Mrs. Stokes considered a moment. "Of course prices are sure to go on rising. At present it is becoming quite a mercenary transaction with an increasing class of collectors, and it will be more and more impossible for any but the richest devotees to complete the very rare issues of countries that started having stamps forty or fifty years ago. I think that in the future the average philatelist will devote himself as a rule to the stamps of one centre, and work up all the minute varieties he can detect with a microscope and camera! If he is really keen there is endless scope for energy here. Look at Turkey for instance. There is a country that has not issued very largely; yet the great authority, Herr von Neulinger (whose work I have just finished translating for Mr. Brown's journal), gives over 790 varieties, without including the early hand-stamps, the locals, or the Athos and Katschak stamps. Or again, take the Straits Settlements surcharged for use in the native states of the Malay Peninsula, so ably treated of by Mr. Brown himself."

"Do you think that stamp collecting has ever been a favourite hobby with ladies, or is likely to become so?" I continued.

"No, I do not. Women always have collected and always will, no doubt, go on doing so, but they do not care about taking up intricate varieties, unless they are pretty, and even valuable stamps have no interest for the majority of them if the shades and designs happen to be dull. They seem to look upon collecting more as a pastime than as a serious hobby, and collect much in the same way that a school boy does, with no deep interest in any particular line. In America there are perhaps more women collectors than with us, but they are not *really* scientific in their way of getting a collection together as a general rule."

"And what do you think of the status of Philatelic Journalism?"

"Unquestionably there is a wide range of interest for journalism of this kind to cover, and its serious value is becoming daily more apparent. New papers on the subject are continually started, and I think each one has a perfect right to exist if it can get and keep a circulation. Each new comer should only serve to wake the others to fresh efforts and keep them from the ruts of easy-going self-complacency, and remind them that there always remains better work to be done than has yet been attempted."

"And now what about unnecessary issues? Do you think that the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps will do good?"

"I certainly think that such a society cannot fail to be of some use. The issue of unnecessary stamps is a shocking nuisance, and unless strong measures can be taken will only increase. Wherever there is a demand, there will of course be a supply, and naturally, governments take advantage of *this* demand to make money by it. There is a sensible proposal made in Germany to place a tax on these issues, and the subject is to be brought up strongly before the International Postal Congress to be held in America in 1897, when something may be done. I have heard, but I cannot say if it is true, that the stamps of the St. Anthony issue are not recognised in Belgium, and letters bearing them are charged as not paid. But though this issue has been much discouraged, the Portuguese Government thinks of bringing out a Vasco di Gama set next year. I do not myself see how anything can really be done until strong measures are brought to influence governments not to issue such stamps. No dealer can rightly be expected to refuse to sell an issue that is genuinely used, and, in my humble opinion, he is rather a duffer if he does. It is the *use* of unnecessary stamps that must be stopped if the business is to be boycotted. I don't even see that your dealer is bound to refuse to supply people who collect only unused specimens—it is against human nature."

"Have you a predilection for the issues of any one country?"

"Oh! I am not collecting now. I lost my bump of acquisitiveness some years ago, and sold my stamps. I give away all that I get to encourage the others. But I had special advantages in making my collection, and, scrappy as it was, it was a good preparation for my present work. I was the youngest of six brothers, if I may put it so! and stepped into an inheritance of stamp knowledge. My father (the Vicar of Hampton) was in Naples in 1861 when the first Victor Emmanuels were just out, and he collected old issues as well for my eldest brother. In this way we became possessed of the first issues with the Sicilian Arms, and the Tuscany with the crowned lion. Coming home through France he bought all of the first three issues that he could get, and the postage-due stamps of 1859, 10c. and 15c. typographed. Then I had a cousin in the 91st Highlanders (it was then!) who was stationed at St. Helena in the seventies, and used to collect for me. I got from him St. Helenas, used and unused; the first and second issues of Ceylon; and the three-cornered Cape of Good Hope of 1857. Then a cousin in Victoria sent me several stamps of the first issues, amongst them the 1854, twopence, Queen on throne. A brother at school tapped a vein of one shilling Victorias of 1854, and I had good New South Wales of 1854 and 1855, but no Sydney Views. I also had a few early Queensland and New Zealand, but took little interest in them because they were so ugly."

"Did you favour any special countries?"

"I liked British North America best, and had some pretty good specimens of Canada. I had the 12 pence, first issue; the 6d., Prince Consort, of 1852; and the Beaver of 1859. Then there were most of the large issues of 1868, Queen's head, and the smaller type of the same year quite complete. In New Brunswick I had the 3d., first issue, diamond shaped; and also the 1, 2, 5 (head of Queen), 12½ and 17 cents of the second issue. In Nova Scotia I had the 1½, diamond. In Newfoundland the 1d., square, first issue (same design, on blue paper, as the last-named), and the first seal."

"Did you go in for European countries at all?"

"Yes; I had some fine ones from a friend at school in Wurtemberg, and got almost all of that country and the early issues of Saxony and Prussia, and of the North German Confederation I had a good few. In Switzerland I had 1861 and 1867 nearly perfect, though none of the Cantonal stamps. My best English specimen was a black Mulready folded cover. In 1885 I had one of Stanley Gibbons' Imperial Albums given me, and this added fresh impetus to my collecting."

"And about your journalism. When did you take it up?"

"In 1891 I got the sub-editorship of the *Woman's Herald*. My work there was only interrupted by my marriage. I took the London editorship of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* in August, 1893, and have held it ever since. I think it is pretty generally known now that the papers signed "Old File" that appear in this journal are written by my husband. I have found my knowledge of French, German and Italian, of the greatest use to me in translating, and Mr. Stokes comes to my aid with Dutch, Norwegian, Spanish and Portuguese when I require it. I think it a great pity that German is not more understood in England, as some of the best works on Philately are in this language, and collectors cannot afford to miss papers that are only published in German. I should like to say a few words on the subject of colour measurement. The tintometer—"

At this moment the club "buttons" came in with a visitor's card for Mrs. Stokes, and she escaped me.

FLORENCE A. S. DAVIDSON.



** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

A.W.B. Many thanks for cutting, which you will find we have referred to.

D.C.L. (Lichfield).—Thanks for your kind letter and cutting enclosed.

F.E.W.—The Indian stamp tax originated in an official misconception of the import tariff. Probably the matter will be remedied by the authorities ere long. (2) The Bordeaux issue of French stamps are the rough lithographs of 1870; most undoubtedly they "constitute a collectible variety."

D.S. (Stamford Hill).—Surely you cannot be a very careful reader of the *FORTNIGHTLY*, or you would know that we gave the differences of type of the 12c. purple, U.S.A., and gave enlarged illustrations in No. 15. If you have not got the number, you can obtain it for 1½d. post free.

H.C.K. You ask us the meaning of the letters "C.C." and "C.A." in the watermark of English Colonial stamps. They mean respectively "Crown Colony" and "Crown Agent," the latter being adopted in or about 1881.

F.M.G. writes:—"Judging from the enterprising manner in which your valuable paper is conducted, I feel justified in asking whether it would be possible to give a list of the "errors" in different countries, indicating at the same time where the "error" is to be found. I fancy that this addition to the "S.C.F." would be of the greatest service to a very large proportion of your readers."—Well, if any reader has the time to write such an article, we shall be pleased to publish, and what is more, pay for it.

OUR REVIEW OF REVIEWS.



The Stamps and Forgeries of Swazieland.

A NEW claimant to philatelic favour comes from South Africa in the extraordinary dress of duplicated type-written matter. To say that it is at a sad disadvantage in not being printed in ordinary type goes without saying. Nevertheless, the new venture deserves success for the very excellent matter that it contains. There is more genuine philately in its eight curious-looking pages than in a whole volume of some so-called philatelic mouthlies that I could name. It is entitled *The South African Philatelist*, and is published by Messrs. Klagsbrun & Epstein, at Johannesburg. Price 6d. As a sample of its contents I cull the following excellent list of the stamps and forgeries of Swazieland:—

To the mind of the South African collector, Swazieland is a country whose stamps must be fully represented in their collections. In the first instance, in that it comprises comparatively few stamps: it is a surcharged issue (a great attraction) not deficient in interesting varieties.

Will readers be astonished to learn that but one specialist of Swazieland, of all who are interested in this country, can have an absolutely complete collection, as I will show further on in my article.

There is but one issue proper of Swazieland stamps, that of 1889. Type Transvaal, 1885 (2d. of 1887), surcharged in black, "Swazieland." The values issued are as follows:—

No. 1— $\frac{3}{4}$ d. grey, black surch.	No. 5—1 - green, black surch.
" 2—1d. carmine ..	" 6—2 6 yellow ..
" 3—2d. olive ..	" 7 5/- slate ..
" 4—6d. blue ..	" 8—10 - fawn ..

In 1893, the colour of the surcharge on the $\frac{3}{4}$ d. was altered to red.
No. 9— $\frac{3}{4}$ d. grey, red surch.

Now follows a most important feature in connection with this issue of stamps from a collector's point of view, namely, the quantities printed and circulated of each value. On the 18th of October, 1889, 30,000 each of the $\frac{3}{4}$ d., 2d., 6d. and 1/- were issued. On the 20th of October, 1890, 1,500 2 6, 600 5/-, and 300 10/- were distributed to the Post Offices in Swazieland. I would here draw your attention to the small quantity of 10/- stamps issued, which, put beside the fact that they were fiscally used, places this stamp on a rank with great rarities.

On the 10th of August, 1891, a further supply of 1,500 5/- stamps reached Swazieland, making a total of this value of 2100.

In 1892, between 15,000 and 20,000 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. surcharged in red were issued. I cannot, however, give the exact figures of the number issued of this value.

Like well-nigh all other surcharges the word "Swazieland" has suffered at the hands of the printer. Scarcity of space will not permit me to enumerate all the smaller varieties of misprints, broken types, &c. I will, however, mention those important errors which have come under my notice.

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

No. 10— $\frac{3}{4}$ d. black and grey.	Surch.	" Swazieland," final "d" omitted.
" 11 - $\frac{3}{4}$ d. ..	" ..	" Swazieland" inverted.
" 12 -2d. ..	" olive.	" Swazieland," final "d" omitted.
" 13 -2d. ..	" ..	" Swazieland" inverted.
" 14 -1/- ..	" green.	" Swazieland" ..
" 15 -5/- ..	" slate.	" Swazieland" ..
" 16 -5/- ..	" ..	" Swazieland," final "d" omitted.
" 17 -5/- ..	" ..	" Swazieland," inverted surcharge.
" 18— $\frac{3}{4}$ d. red and grey.	" ..	" Swazieland" inverted.
" 19— $\frac{3}{4}$ d. ..	" ..	" Swazieland," double surcharge.

Of the 1/- inverted, only three sheets of sixty stamps each exist, while of the 5/- inverted only one sheet was printed. The 5/- inverted, with the final "d" omitted, is a unique stamp, and is in the possession of a well known collector here. The error "Swazieland," which occurs in the $\frac{3}{4}$ d. (black surcharge), 2d. and 5/-, is found in the left hand bottom corner of each sheet.

In January, 1893, notification was given by the Postmaster General of the withdrawal from sale of the Swazieland stamps. Those still remaining in public hands could be used in the ordinary way for postage until the 7th November of that year, when they were recalled from circulation.

The simple nature of the surcharge naturally attracted the active attention of the forger. Below I give a description of a few of the forgeries which resulted.

There is a surcharge "Swasieland" ("s" in place of "z") against which I wish to warn you. It is purely a forgery, such an error not occurring in any of the various printings.

I have seen the 1885, $\frac{3}{4}$ d. and 6d. Transvaal surcharged "Swazieland" in black.

The first, of course, is purely bogus. The type is slightly larger, the greatest difference being that the initial letter "S," quite plain in the genuine, is of a fancy type in the forgery. On examining the stamps closely under a magnifying glass, I find the surcharge to have been printed *over the postmark*. The naked eye would not easily discover this, only heavily postmarked Transvaal stamps having been brought into service.

The most outrageous of all the forgeries is the 2d. Swazieland, surcharged "1" in violet, in the corners of the stamp on each numeral "2," and once in the centre.

The stamp itself is genuine in all respects, the provisional one being bogus. The forger disposed of quite a quantity of these to unwary Philatelists.

In 1893 a Transvaal postcard surcharged "Swazieland" was announced to have been issued in Bremersdorp, by Senf's Journal. The information had been supplied to Senf by the local Postmaster. It turned out, however, to be a bogus card not authorised by Government.

It now only remains for me to warn both collectors and dealers against the Swazieland stamps with full stop after the surcharge. I have seen a large quantity of these on the $\frac{3}{4}$ d., 1d., 2d. and 10/-. The surcharge, with the exception of the full stop, is perfectly identical with the original. I am not at the present moment in a position to give further information as regards these stamps, but, though I may not yet designate them forgeries, until I have made further enquiries at Head Quarters (it being too late to do so for this issue) I again warn readers against purchasing Swazieland stamps with the above described surcharge.

Success of the S.S.S.S.

Some good folks are inclined to doubt the possibility of the S.S.S.S. seriously affecting the question of the issue of speculative stamps; others have even declared their intention to snap their fingers at its decisions. Let them read, mark

and ponder over the following important announcement, by the Scott Stamp and Coin Co., of New York, in the November issue of their journal, *The American Journal of Philately* :—

The deluge of speculative stamps is assuming such proportions that we consider it worthy of a special heading in our journal. We are happy to say that the majority of prominent dealers are pursuing the same policy as the Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Ltd., viz.: To absolutely refuse to purchase or sell any specimens of stamps which are properly classed under this heading. We regret, at the same time, that there are a few prominent dealers who are unable to resist the temptation to make a few dollars profit even at the expense of all principle. In our opinion, the time will come when collectors will judge of the respectability of dealers by their regard for the interests of those who purchase them, and we consider it the duty of every dealer of standing to aid the present war against unnecessary issues. If no stop could be put to the manufacture of stamps for sale to collectors only, what is now a study and a science would soon become nothing but a collection of pretty designs, and the result would be either that stamp collecting is relegated to boys entirely, or else that serious collectors would confine themselves to old issues alone.

The day of reckoning will assuredly come for those dealers who stand out for the sale of speculative rubbish. The next issues of albums will certainly be severely scanned, and any attempt to continue the inclusion of speculative swindles will be unmercifully exposed. The firm that can stand being black listed for the encouragement of stamp swindles, will need to stand very firmly on its feet, for the attack will be conducted without quarter.

U.S. Unwatermarked Stamps.

Mr. A. C. Townsend contributes to *Filatelic Facts and Fancies* (U.S.), the following interesting particulars concerning the dollar issues of the unwatermarked stamps of the current series :—

I have just obtained from the Post Office Department the statement of the number of unwatermarked stamps issued of the dollar values, and believe that the statement will be rather startling to collectors who are still without them. The figures are as follows :—

\$1.00	..	..	..	35,046
\$2.00	..	..	..	10,007
\$5.00	..	..	..	6,251

These figures are furnished by the Stamp Division of the Department, and are exact and reliable. I am also informed that of this number there have been in each case a good many returned by the postmasters and destroyed by the Bureau, which still further reduces the number obtainable.

The Simple Simons of Lima.

The *Philatelic Journal of America* (New York), for Nov., publishes the amusing, official correspondence, which led to the recent issue in Peru of postage stamps, "to commemorate the victory of General Pierold." The postal authorities being "hard up" suggested a special issue of postage stamps on the ground that "issues of this kind are of great importance to collectors of postage stamps in all countries who become purchasers of these labels," and calculated that "7,000 to 10,000 sales would be taken up in a very short time." Hence the following decree :—

In consideration of the report of the Director General of the Post Office under this date, showing that the debt contracted for the transportation of mails cannot be paid at this time with the normal resources of the budget; considering that it is the duty of the government to fulfil its contracts; considering that it is desired to make a special issue of postage stamps limited in number and duration, an issue interesting to a great number of collectors and which will be taken up in a few days; and considering the financial advantages resulting from this *modus operandi*; in view of paragraphs 6 and 8 of the statute giving the right to the Director of the Postal Departments to create types of vignettes for postage stamps and envelopes: It is DECREED that, in conformity with the statute, the Director of the Post Office shall create such an issue, and that all the stamps not sold at the end of the period of limitation shall be incinerated.

A Questionable Variety.

Mr. A. E. Wrightman, in some notes contributed to the *Australian Philatelist* speaks of a N.S.W. twopenny blue, 1862-4 "on paper wmk. double line 3" which he believes to be well authenticated. Commenting on this, Mr. Castle in the *London Philatelist*, says :—

Now in regard to this stamp watermarked double-line 3, we feel sure that it belongs to the same class as the "10d. Van Dieman's Land," the "6d. New Zealand on blue paper," and such like mediæval bogies. We do not believe in its existence. It was chronicled in Oceania, but we fancy that the specimen that stood sponsor for it, "unfolded a tail" and developed into the "common or garden" variety of double-lined 5. This variety has been wisely eliminated from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' new catalogue, after consultation with the acknowledged best authorities on Australian stamps in this country.

Mr. Wrightman will probably let us know if he can unfold a tail in his specimen.

The "Impressed" Watermark of Queensland.

The Australian Correspondent of the *London Philatelist* has the following note on the curiously new watermark already noted on the recently received Queensland stamps :—

Queensland is still providing food for the thoughtful and speculative philatelist in the shape of more paper varieties. The latest to appear has a real interest attaching to it, in that a new and hitherto untried preventative against fraud has been introduced. The ½d. (of altered type) has been printed on a paper which is variously described as "secret mark," "impressed," or "imitation watermark" paper. Looked at in the ordinary way, the stamp appears to be on plain rather than wove paper, without watermark, but upon holding the stamp face upwards, at such an angle that the light falls well upon it, the mark of Q under a Crown can be seen distinctly, on an unused sheet, though a single specimen does not "yield up its secret" so easily, and it is almost impossible to decipher it on a used specimen.

It would be interesting to know how this new method of watermarking is done. Is it stamped in relief, i.e., embossed? It seems so to me.

The Plates of Hawaii.

Mr. W. M. Gifford, in concluding an excellent series of articles on the early issues of Hawaii in the *Monthly Journal*, writes :—

Referring to the destruction of the dies and plates of the stamps of Hawaii, manufactured by and in the possession of the American Bank-note Company, I would state that this was done on March 28th, 1894, in New York, in the presence of the Company's officials and the Hawaiian Consul. Certificates of their destruction have been sent to and are now in the possession of the Postal authorities here. The dies and plates destroyed were all that had been manufactured prior to the establishment of the Republic of Hawaii, the whole of them being at the time in the custody of the American Bank-note Company.

German Colonials.

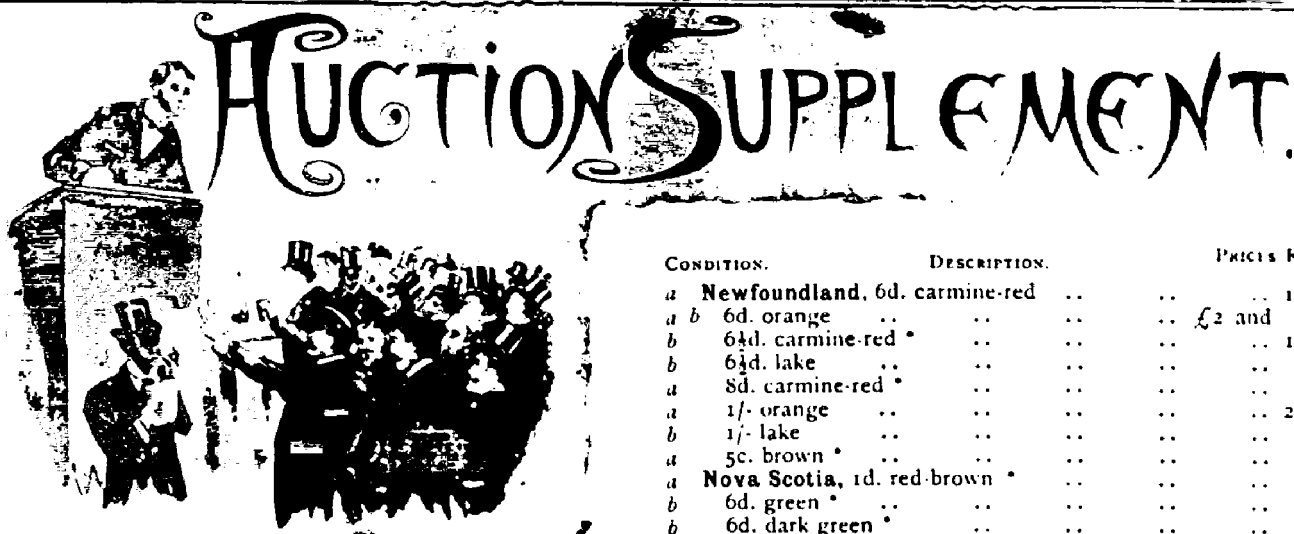
The Berlin Correspondent of Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal* in his October letter has an interesting reference to German Colonial stamps. He writes :—

Some people are angry with the German Postal Administration, because our colonies must still do without special stamps. The Colonial Society has sent a petition to the authorities, stating that it would be desirable to give each colony a set of stamps, in order to increase the interest in and the knowledge of the colonies. But it will not succeed. The Berlin Philatelic Club has also discussed the matter at one of its meetings, and expressed an opinion that special stamps were only justifiable where the difference of currency required them, as for example, in East Africa. Perhaps it will not be long before we get a special set for the German post offices in China; but it will certainly then consist of the common German stamps, with an overprint of the new value, after the model of the stamps for Constantinople and for East Africa. I hope the S.S.S.S. will not put these stamps on their list of unnecessary, or it may happen that these unnecessary stamps may last longer than the S.S.S.S. The first issue for the German Empire circulated for half-a-year, the second lived two-and-a-half years, the third five years, the fourth ten years. Continuing this progression, we may expect a life of twenty years for the fifth issue, now in course. So we may look for a new issue of German stamps in the year 1910. Will the S.S.S.S. still exist then? Will there be any Philately at all by that time?

Well, Mr. Sceptic, we hope the S.S.S.S. will have swept the decks clean before 1910.

NOTICE.

EXCHANGE copies of *Philatelic Journals* for notice in OUR REVIEW OF REVIEWS pages should be forwarded direct to the Editor, Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, Carisbrook, Birdhurst Rise, Croydon; and two copies as usual to the Offices of the "S.C.F.", 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.



Class a—Superb condition, if *unused* with gum, (mint state), if *used*, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post-marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked *
(Continued from page 62).

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., November 20th and 21st, 1895.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.
		£ s. d.
a	ditto, 4c. dark blue *	3 0 0
a	four used copies averaged	1 4 0
b	ditto, 4c. blue *	2 8 0
a	four used copies averaged	0 17 0
a	a single, stop between S and T	1 6 0
a	ditto, 4c. blue, numerals framed	£1 12s. od. and 1 14 0
a	(1856), 4c. crimson (30 x 30mm.)	24 10 0
a	another (35 x 27mm.)	21 0 0
b	(1860), 1c. rose *	3 12 6
b	1c. brown-red *	1 18 0
a b	1c. brown *	£3 10s. od. and 3 12 6
a	two used copies	each 2 4 0
b	2c. orange, thick paper, perf. 12 *	2 10 0
b	12c. grey, ditto, ditto *	1 12 0
b	12c. lilac, ditto, ditto *	1 18 0
b	12c. lilac (type a), perf. 12½-13 *	1 12 0
a	another (type b), ditto *	1 18 0
a	(1862), 4c. blue, rosaces *	15 0 0
b	(1863), 24c. green, perf. 12 *	£1 2s. od. and 1 4 0
a b	Canada, ½d. rose, * 3 copies	each 1 0 0
a b	½d. rose, perf. *	£1 12s. od. and 1 16 0
b	3d. red, pair *	1 8 0
b	3d. perf. 12 *	1 16 0
a	6d. purple-black, 3 copies	each 0 18 0
a	6d. violet	1 10 0
a	10d. blue	£1 10s. od. and 1 12 0
b	ditto	£1 6s. od. and 1 9 0
b	1c. red-brown on laid	2 4 0
a	Dominica, "One Penny" on 1/-, wide space between "n" and "e" *	3 0 0
a	1/- carmine, CA., * 2 copies	each 5 0 0
a	Montserrat, 4d. blue CA. *	9 5 0
a	Nevis, 4d. blue *	1 14 0
a	pale green, litho. *	1 12 0
a	1/- violet *	2 10 0
a	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	5 0 0
a	1/- purple	21 10 0
b	Connell *	22 10 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange *	£1 7s. od. and 1 10 0
b	2d. lake	2 12 0
a	4d. carmine-red	£5 15s. od. and 7 10 0
b	4d. orange *	7 0 0
b	another, used	2 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.
		£ s. d.
a	Newfoundland, 6d. carmine-red	10 0 0
a b	6d. orange	£2 and 2 10 0
b	6½d. carmine-red *	11 15 0
b	6½d. lake	2 2 0
a	8d. carmine-red *	1 0 0
a	1/- orange	27 10 0
b	1/- lake	1 1 0
a	5c. brown *	1 5 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown *	1 14 0
b	6d. green *	6 0 0
b	6d. dark green *	4 7 0
b	1/- plum	20 10 0
a	1/- cold violet	26 10 0
a	St. Christopher, 1d. lilac-rose, CA. *	4 10 0
a	6d. olive-brown *	2 15 0
a	1 - lilac *	£1 9s. od. and 1 10 0
a	St. Lucia (6d.) green, CC.	1 6 0
a	St. Vincent, ½d. in red on half 6d. yellow-green, pair *	4 7 6
a	1d. in red on half 6d. blue-green, pair *	17 0 0
a	"One Penny" on 6d. yellow green *	4 0 0
a	4d. red-brown *	6 0 0
a	4d. on 1/- vermilion *	16 10 0
a	6d. yellow-green, comp. perf. *	1 5 0
a	6d. green, CA., perf. 12 *	2 2 0
a	1/- slate *	1 12 0
a	1/- brown *	7 0 0
a	5/- rose, star *	18 0 0
b	South Australia, 3d. red and blue..	1 1 0
a	10d. yellow, black surcharge, perf. 11½ x 10 *	1 1 0
a	1 - violet *	10 0 0
b	Tasmania, ½d. on 1d., "al" sideways	4 4 0
b	2d. emerald, no wmk.	1 0 0
b	4d. blue, ditto *	1 14 0
a	Trinidad, Lady McLeod, penmark..	12 0 0
b	litho., red	3 5 0
b	4d. grey-lilac, imperf.	1 16 0
a	4d. purple, thick paper, perf. 11½ *	1 3 0
b	6d. emerald, ditto, perf. 13	1 6 0
a	6d. emerald, CC., perf. 12½ *	1 7 0
a	1 - indigo, 2 copies	each 1 8 0
a	1/- indigo, rough perf.	1 10 0
b	1/- bright blue, ditto	1 6 0
a	1/- yellow, CC., perf. 12½ *	1 4 0
a	5 - dull lake, ditto *	1 5 0
a	Turks Islands, ½d. on 4d. grey *	1 18 0
b	Victoria, first issue, 1d. rose *	1 14 0
a	ditto, 2d. fine ground	3 10 0
a	Queen on throne, 2d. mauve litho. *	£1 and 1 2 0
b	ditto, 2d. grey, broken steps *	2 0 0
a	(1858), 2 - green, perf. *	1 10 0
b	Emblems, 1d. green, hor. laid, perf. *	2 17 6
b	ditto, 2d. brown-lilac, ditto, roul. *	1 0 0
a	2d. purple, ditto, ditto *	1 7 0
a	2d. purple, "threepence," perf. *	1 10 0
b	Beaded Oval, 4d. rose, wmk. 4 *	1 14 0
b	ditto, 6d. orange	8 0 0
a	ditto, 6d. black *	1 4 0
b	Laureated, 1d. green, wmk. 6 *	2 12 0
a	1d. green, wmk. 8 *	2 16 0
b	2d. lilac, ditto *	1 16 0
b	6d. blue, "Threepence" *	2 14 0
a	Too Late	1 5 0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown *	1 9 0
a	4d. on 1/-	1 16 0
b	6d. pink on white, perf. 15 *	7 10 0
a b	2 others on yellowish *	£7 and 8 5 0
a	1/- crimson, single line *	4 15 0
b	1/- crimson, double line *	7 0 0
b	Western Australia, 6d. green, roulette	2 0 0

The LONDON PHILATELIC Co., November 22nd, 1895.

b	Bavaria, 12kr. lilac, perf. ..	1 1 0
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And what is more

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
b	British Honduras, 6d. rose, CC., perf. 14	1 5 0
a	Dominica, 1/- carmine, CA.	5 5 0
b	Great Britain, £1 purple-brown, cross	1 8 0
b	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA.	3 10 0
a	Nevis, 1 - violet, pair *	5 0 0
b	Nova Scotia, 8½c. on white *	1 6 0
b	Oldenburg, second issue, ¼gr. green	2 4 0
a	St. Christopher, 4d. blue, CA. *	4 0 0
b	6d. olive-grey *	3 10 0
a	St. Vincent, 1d. drab, star *	2 12 6
b	4d. orange	2 4 0
b	United States, Columbus, 1 dollar..	0 15 0

Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, November 25th, 1895.

a	Afghanistan (1290), shahi, purple, pair *	6 0 0
c	tab. 1, 1 rupee, black, mended but square ..	3 3 0
a	Bremen, 10gr. black, perf. on piece	2 10 0
c	British Guiana, first issue, 12c. blue, cut round	5 0 0
c	Canada, 6d. purple-black, perf., fine but tear	4 12 0
a	7½d. green, two copies ..	each 2 14 0
b	10d. blue, thin paper ..	1 4 0
b	Ceylon, 4d. rose, star, perf. ..	1 1 0
b	5d. red-brown, no wmk. ..	1 5 0
a	Confederate States, Petersburg, 5c. red	1 12 0
b	France, 15c. brown on rose, pair, with 10c. *	6 0 0
b	India, Service, 2a. black on short lilac	2 6 0
a	ditto, 2a. green on long lilac	2 0 0
b	New South Wales, Laureated, 1d. orange, wmk. *	1 2 0
a	St. Vincent, 1/- brown ..	0 19 0
b	1/- deep brown..	1 0 0
b	South Australia, 1d. dark green, pair on piece	2 10 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. serrations *	0 19 0
b	1d. roulette ..	1 4 0
a	Trinidad, purple-brown on blue *	0 19 0
b	United States, St. Louis, 10c. black, penmark	11 0 0
b	U.S. City Despatch Post, 3c. black on blue, glazed..	1 2 0
a	(1869), 15c., no frame, no grill *	2 12 6
a	ditto, 24c., no grill *	3 15 0
a	ditto, 30c., no grill *	3 17 6
b	ditto, 30c., with grill *	2 4 0
b	ditto, 90c., with grill *	5 0 0
a	Virgin Islands, 4d. on 1 -	1 12 0
b	4d. brick-red ..	1 0 0
b	6d. purple ..	1 18 0
b	Wurtemberg, 2 marks, yellow *	4 0 0
b	18k. orange, roulette ..	0 19 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, November 25th & 26th, 1895.

a	Bremen, 7gr. yellow	1 7 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. blue	3 5 0
c	Great Britain, I.R. Official, 5/- rose	2 0 0
a	Hamburg, 9sch. yellow, imperf.	1 5 0
a	Naples, ½t. blue, arms *	36 0 0
a	Nevis, 6d. grey on bleuté ..	1 17 0
a	6d. bronze on greyish ..	1 2 0
b	1/- green, perf. 13 ..	2 10 0
b	1 - green, perf. 15 ..	£1 2s. od. and 1 5 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange *	1 3 0
c	8d. carmine-red ..	1 1 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney View, 3d. green..	17/- and 0 18 0
b	5d. green, imperf. ..	1 16 0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. brown ..	1 2 0
b	8½c. green, on yellowish ..	1 2 0
b	United States (1869), 24c. with grill *	1 4 0
b	ditto, 30c. ditto *	1 7 0
a	(1870), 10c. brown, ditto, used ..	0 17 0
a	ditto, 12c. purple, ditto ..	2 10 0
b	Justice, 24c. ..	1 1 0
a	ditto, 30c. ..	1 12 0
b	Western Australia, 2d. brown-red ..	1 16 0
b	Wurtemberg, 18k. orange, roulette ..	1 2 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, November 28th & 29th, 1895.

b	Afghanistan, first issue, violet on white laid, * 2 each	2 10 0
a	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf. ..	1 12 0
a	Barbados, half a blue on bluish, on entire, 2	each 1 2 0
b	1d. on half 5/-, unsevered pair ..	18 0 0
b	5 - rose *	3 10 0
b	another, used ..	1 12 0
a	Belgium, 5fr. pale brown *	1 10 0
b	Bolivar, first issue, 10c. green, side margin *	6 10 0
b	Bremen, 7gr. yellow, imperf. ..	2 8 0
a	British Columbia, 10c. blue, imperf. ..	1 12 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
b	Canada, 10d. blue	1 10 0
a	1c. red-brown on laid ..	1 12 0
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red	3 3 0
b	ditto, 4d. light blue on piece ..	2 0 0
b	ditto, 4d. blue..	£2 6s. od., £3 3s. od. and 3 5 0
a	1 - emerald ..	0 19 0
a	Ceylon, ½d. lilac on bluish, imperf. *	1 6 0
c	4d. rose, imperf., fine but slight hole and crack	22 0 0
a	5d. brown, CC., pair on entire ..	3 12 6
b	8d. brown, imperf., on piece with 1d. and 1/-	22 0 0
a	9d. brown, no wmk. ..	1 3 0
b	Cyprus, 6d. grey ..	1 4 0
b	Dominican Republic, first issue, ½t. rose	1 2 0
b	ditto, ½t. green..	2 15 0
a	France, 1c. black on indigo *	2 10 0
a	Gambia, 1/- green *	2 5 0
b	another, penmark ..	1 7 0
a	Great Britain, 6d. violet, octagonal *	2 12 6
a	1/- salmon, plate 13, pair *	1 10 0
b	2/- brown ..	2 6 0
b	£5 orange, telegraph cancel	2 4 0
b	Hamburg, 4sch. green, imperf. ..	1 12 0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green ..	2 10 0
b	Hong Kong, 10 dollars rose ..	2 0 0
b	Labuan, 6c. in red on 16c. blue ..	7 10 0
b	Mauritius, Britannia, 1/- green, perf.	1 3 0
a	Monaco, 5fr. *	1 18 0
b	Natal, first issue, 6d. green on entire	1 10 0
a	1/- green, "Postage" ..	2 6 0
c	Nevis, 6d. green, thinned ..	7 10 0
b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	2 0 0
b	1/- violet, cut close ..	11 0 0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. orange *	1 6 0
b	4d. orange, cut close ..	1 2 0
b	6d. orange, ditto ..	1 7 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d., plate 1, pair	3 0 0
a	a single ..	2 0 0
b	another ..	1 10 0
a	ditto, 1d., plate 2 ..	1 18 0
b	another ..	1 8 0
b	ditto, 2d., plate 2, early and with fine margins *	25 0 0
a	another, used ..	3 0 0
1a1c	a vert. pair, one darker than the other ..	7 15 0
b	a single ..	1 6 0
b	ditto, 2d., plate 2, "crevit" omitted "	2 12 6
2b1c	ditto, 3d. green, strip of 3 ..	4 15 0
b	a pair ..	2 6 0
a b	singles on bluish	£1 8s. od., £1 12s. od. and 2 4 0
a b	singles on yellowish	£1 10s. od., £2 2s. od. and 2 8 0
a	Laureated, 8d. orange ..	2 7 6
b	another ..	1 10 0
b	New Zealand, 3d. brown-lilac, star, roulette	1 5 0
a	1/- green, pelure, roulette ..	2 0 0
a	Norway, first issue, 4sk. blue *	1 2 0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown ..	1 2 0
b	Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf. ..	1 10 0
b	St. Vincent, 1/- slate-grey *	1 12 0
b	Sandwich Islands, Interisland, 1c. light blue on thin greyish ..	2 6 0
b	ditto, 2c. ditto, ditto *	2 12 6
b	South Australia, 3d. red and blue, pair *	4 8 0
a	6k. sky-blue, perf. and roul., pair *	15 0 0
b	6d. blue, ditto *	3 10 0
b	10d. blue and yellow, perf. 10 top, 12½ sides and 11½ bottom *	1 18 0

(To be continued.)

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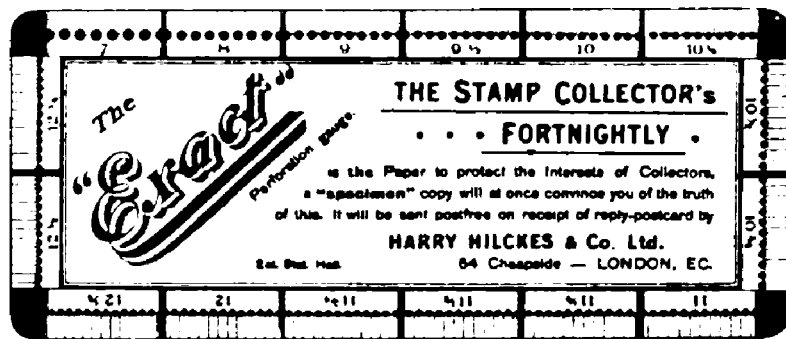
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All the stamps were shown under glass.

The Edinburgh and Leith Philatelic Society tenders its sincere thanks to all who assisted them towards making the Exhibition a success, either by lending stamps or any other way.

L. S. Hush, Hon., Sec.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Nov. 21st.—J. A. Galbraith (Trinidad), E. Sigerist-Moser (Schaffhausen) and A. C. Jones (Bermuda) were unanimously elected members.

Votes of thanks were accorded Messrs. E. F. Wurtell and Cromie for twenty-five Philatelic Journals and "The Stamps of Egypt" respectively.

Mr. C. A. Stephenson then gave a very interesting and carefully prepared paper on the "Stamps of the United States from 1847 to 1869," illustrated by his own collection and a number of other good collections belonging to members present; also some sent by corresponding members. In the intervals between the various issues, and at the end of the paper, there was a very lively discussion on the minor varieties of die ornament and grille.

Dec. 5th.—R. S. Bhatavadekei (Bombay) and J. G. Wilson (Barbados) were unanimously elected members.

Subscriptions were voted to the London Philatelic Society's "South Africa" and other publications.

A vote of thanks was accorded Mr. H. L. Ewen for a bound copy of his "Priced Catalogue of the Stamps of Great Britain."

Then followed the "Display of the Stamps of Italy and the Italian States, together with the forgeries and reprints of the same." The exhibit was very fine, and included most of the varieties, unused and used, on originals.

December Packet.—This requires special notice, as it is probably the finest packet ever circulated in an English Exchange. The sheets sent in were worth over £1200, and about half of this value, consisting of fine used Colonials, especially British North America and West Indies, and nearly all prices considerably below catalogue. The St. Vincent's included 5/- star; 4d. yellow, no wmk.; 4d. red-brown, CA.; all unused. Nevis, St. Kitts, Virgin Islands, Dominica, and Nova Scotia were almost complete in shades. Considering that all the sheets were sent in at reasonable prices, it was thought advisable, with the owner's consent, to keep over two duplicate sheets worth over £300 till next packet, leaving the value at £89 4s. 5d. But from promises already to hand it is very likely that the January packet will be very considerably larger than this.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting of this Society was held on Tuesday, the 3rd December. The President, Mr. Oliver Frith, occupying the chair. There was a large muster of members present, and

after the formal business had been disposed of, the President read a paper on "The Stamps of the Virgin Islands." The subject was dealt with by the writer in a very instructive and entertaining manner, and was much appreciated by the members present. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday the 5th January next.—W. H. Scott, Hon. Secretary, 1, Piccadilly, Bradford.

PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 2d. for every six words.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

CHEAP English Penny Red, complete plate numbers except 225, only 12/- Packets of plate numbers 25 different, 6d.; 50 different, 1/3; 75 different, 2/9; 100 different, 4/6; 125 different, 7/-; good condition.—D. LLOYD, Stowe, Lichfield. [2]

LIEBIG'S Advertisement Tickets wanted in exchange for Old German States.—M. BOSCH, 29, Poteithorpromenade Brannschweig (Germany). [1]

65 Genuine Varieties including Selangor surcharged on Straits (catalogued 2/-), India (1 rupee), Persia, Tunis, Congo, Benin, Perak, Siam, Samander, Danish Indies, Peru, Cyprus, Cashmere, Bogota, Bolivia, Beira, Barbados, &c. 1/-.—SMITH, Arthur road, Kingston, Surrey. [1]

SHEETS.—Penny red plate numbers, 75 below catalogue. To each applicant, 4 different plate numbers.—LLOYD, Stowe, Lichfield. [1]

WANTED specimen numbers of Philatelic Journals.—D. C. LLOYD, Stowe Hill, Lichfield.

SEYCHELLES, Sets of Stamps and Envelopes, cheap, specially imported by Amateur Collector.—R., 15, Uxbridge Road, Surbiton. [1]

APPROVAL.—British Colonials, Old European, &c., mostly half-price. Discount extra. State number in collection and requirements. No Dealers. 4000 varieties.—PHILATELIST, 98, Coningham Road, Shepherd's Bush [2]

EXCHANGE desired with Collectors and Dealers in the United Kingdom and British Colonies. Sample sheets with postage stamps requested for approval; basis Stanley, Senf, &c.—TOMAS, Torrabadella, Pelago II, Barcelona, Spain. [3]

TO COLLECTORS.—Wanted Rare Stamps to complete Countries.—J. KNASTER, Cambridge. [5]

BRIGHT'S catalogue, 1/6 postal order, prepaid. If acknowledgment required, kindly enclose postcard.—HOWKWOOD, Chichester. [2]

250 VARIETIES, 1/3 Post Free. No Duplicates. Catalogued £1.—H. COOPE, 66, Minet Avenue, Willesden, London. [1]

80 VARIETIES, including Persia, Travancore, Cape Verde, Venezuela, Azores, Ecuador, Siam, 4d.—COOPE, 66, Minet Avenue, Willesden, London. [1]

BREAKING Collections. Rare and Medium Duplicates. Approval. References.—RICHARDS, Cornhill, Melton Mowbray. [1]

AUSTRALASIA, 50 all different, including O.S. 2/1 Free.—RICHARDS, Cornhill, Melton Mowbray. [2]

TO COLLECTORS.—Wanted—English, Gambia, Gold Coast, Lagos, Sierra Leone, Western Australia, unused preferred.—F. BRADBURY, 3, India Buildings, Liverpool. [1]

SHEETS AND BOOKS of British, Foreign, and Colonial Stamps Sent on Approval Prices moderate. Quality, from cheap to medium. Buy, Sale, or Exchange. Correspondence in English only.—JOHN JOHNSTON, Moss-Side, New Deer, Aberdeenshire, Scotland. [2]

UNITED STATES.—Wanted, used or unused: fine horizontal pairs, particularly 1869 issue, any; 1872 issue, 7 and 24c.; also 1851, 4c. brown, single and pair; 1877, 5 and 10c. pairs.—F. HIRK, 23, Croxtette Grove, Liverpool. [1]

NORWAY, 1877, 1.00, 1.50, and 2.00 kroner, together, price 2/3; 1889 and 1893 Unpaid Letter Stamps, fr. 1.50, complete, 7d. Postal Stamp Packet "Nordkap," including 100 different stamps from Norway, 3/- First class References. Remittance in Money Orders.—HAROLD BRAUN, Hammergest, Norway. [1]

WANTED to buy Portuguese Indies, obsolete issues, all values. Also Mexican and Turkish Surcharge, all issues. Japanese and Old Persians.—DR. BURGH, 46, Weymouth Street, London, W. [1]

EXCHANGE SOCIETY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS THE LARGEST AND BEST STAMP EXCHANGE in existence, conducted on RULES OF EXCHANGE (FREE AND SIMPLE). Subscription, 1/- per annum. Nearly 200 Members. Full particulars, and all information necessary for New Members, will be sent free on application to The Secretary, Mr. C. FORBES, Hon. Librarian, City of London Philatelic Club, 42, Strahan Road, London, E. Foreign correspondence desired with Dealers and Collectors. [10]

LANCASHIRE Stamp Exchange Society. Entrance Fee, 1/- Rules free. Approval Sheets, 25 per cent. discount.—Secretary, J. W. MARSDEN, 11, Alpha Street West, Dudley, Manchester. [1]

50 Different Plate Numbers, 1d. red, 1/6, post free, 10 varieties, 1d.—"N", MRS. THOMAS, Pelton Terrace, Haile. [10]

SPANISH for Sale.—1860, 12 cuartos, 2/- per doz.; 1862, 12 cuartos, 3/- per doz.; 1864, 12 cuartos, 3/- doz.; 1866, 12 cuartos, 4/- per doz.; 1867, 12 cuartos, 5/6 per doz.; 1870, 12 cuartos, 4/- per doz.; 1873, 10 cents, blue, 5/- per doz.; ditto, green, 4/- per doz.; 1876, 25 cents, brown, 1/- per doz.—HARRY TEBBITT, 92, Avenue de Neuilly, Neuilly sur Seine, France. [10]

200 Foreign Stamps, including Perak (large tiger's head), Morocco, Shanghai, Deccan, Puttiala, Travancore, Tunis, Straits Settlements, Bulgaria, Cashmere, Italian Parcel Post, Chili, Canada Registration, St. Helena, Zambesia, five Japan, including Wedding, Roumania, Africa, Argentine, 1/2.—"COLLECTOR," Egginton Vicarage, Leighton Buzzard. [10]

ST. VINCENT, 4d. violet-brown, catalogued 1/8, and 30 other good Stamps from my collection, 1/- post free.—F. TERRY, Winterbrook, Wallingford, Berks. [10]

DUPLICATES.—80 varieties, post free, 7/-—R. MURRY, 11, Trinity Square, Hull. [10]

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ENGLISH Collection.—About 500 magnificent copies. Cash, half catalogue or exchange. Early Colonials especially, unused, and high values.—"COLLECTOR," Brittany House, St. Leonard's-on-Sea. [10]

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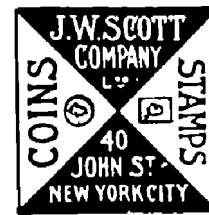
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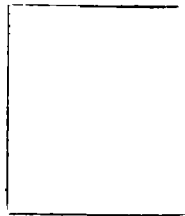
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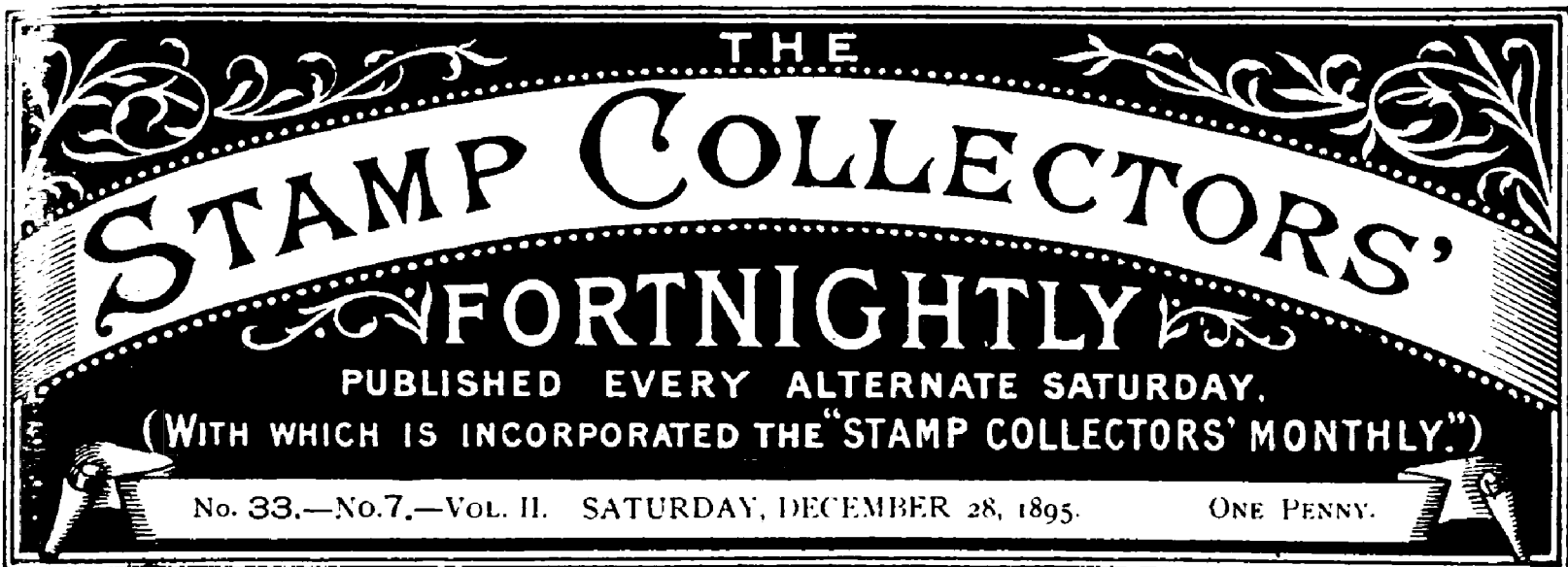
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No. 33.—No. 7.—Vol. II. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1895.

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Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 33.—No. 7.—Vol. II.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	75
Philatelic Events	75
S.S.S.S.	76
Philately at Home	76
Under Bennett's Clock	78
Forgers and their Work	79
Between Ourselves	80
Hilckes' Enquiry Bureau Announcements	81
Leeward Islands Reminders	81
City of London Philatelic Club	82
The Secret Marks of the Stamps of Switzerland	82
Answers to Correspondents	83
Our Forum	84
Our Review of Reviews	85
Auction Supplement	86
Doings of Societies	88

If there is an unlucky spot for philatelists on this earth, that spot is Canada. The latest casualty there is the insolvency of Mr. H. F. Ketcheson, of Belleville, Ontario, well-known not only as dealer, but also as philatelic publisher. Mr. Ketcheson has made an assignment to a Mr. Roberts, for the benefit of his creditors.

IS Mr. C. H. Mangels, according to "K. Narca," San Francisco boasts a stamp-mender of extraordinary ability and infinite skill. His name is not a happy one. Who that was not of Juliet's way of thinking would entrust a rare stamp to the tender mercies of a man named Mangels? Yet it is on record that Mangels can put a corner on a stamp so neatly that a microscope will not reveal the join. False perforation teeth manufactured while you wait! old stamps sold and heeled, at short notice! What shall we call Mr. Mangels?—surgeon, dentist, or cobbler?

WE rejoice to hear that Mr. F. A. Philbrick, q.c., has been appointed a County Court Judge. Some months ago in this column we took occasion to remark that the high qualifications of our only legal O.C. had been too long overlooked by those who have the giving out of legal "plums."



THE REV. W. PELL, with that wonderful philatelic magic lantern of his, has been giving another stamp display, this time on behalf of the Church Missionary Society. Isn't it funny how things work out in these civilized days? Here is a philatelist helping to civilize the heathen, and the heathen, whether he lives in Tonga, the Cook Islands, or elsewhere, will at once proceed to issue gumpaps, thus returning evil for the good conferred upon him.

MR. ISAAC A. MEKEEL, youngest of the famous Mekeels of St. Louis, Mo., and editor of our smart contemporary, *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, has been on a second visit to Europe. He left for "Parrus," a week or so ago, and is now floating back across the "pond."

AFTER an extended absence, Mr. Charles J. Phillips is back to No. 391, looking all the better for his holiday.

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING JAN. 11th, 1896.

Auction Sales.

- Jan. 2nd.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Hall, Charing Cross, at 5 p.m.
- Jan. 6th and 7th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 6 p.m.
- Jan. 8th and 9th.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63-4, Chancery Lane, at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Jan. 13th.—Mr. Wm. Hadow, at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, at 6 p.m. precisely.

City of London Club.

Fortnightly Meetings at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, E.C., every Monday following publication of "S.C.F.," at 7.30 p.m.

The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps.

Circular No. 4.

391, STRAND,
LONDON, W.C.

THE Society, in conjunction with the Special Committee appointed by the London Philatelic Society, having taken into consideration the Stamps mentioned below, are of opinion that they are not worth the attention of Philatelists, and appeal to all Collectors and Dealers to discountenance collecting or dealing in the same.

17. **Ecuador.** We have received a communication from a very trustworthy authority in New York, that a set of Commemorative Stamps will shortly be issued for this country, of the values of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 centavos, and 1 sucre respectively. Our correspondent further states:

"I have seen a letter from the holder of the concession to a large exporting firm here, wherein he asks them to submit the designs, and states that he will be prepared to supply the Stamps in any quantity, either cancelled or uncanceled; but that they must state the quantity they will engage to take before the issue is made. This would seem to be the worst kind of a job on the part of the Ecuadorian Government. In the first place, they have farmed out the control of the issue for so many dollars cash in hand to the holder of the concession, and in the next place, the concessionaire evidently is prepared to milk the philatelic market to its extreme capacity."

18. **Formosan Republic.** A set of these stamps was brought out by Liu-Yung-Fu, the chief of this newly-formed Republic. The following information respecting them has been furnished by an Englishman out there:

"There have been *two* issues; the first was impressed from a very poor die (I fancy, locally made), on a rough kind of tissue paper. These were not perforated, but had to be cut off the sheet as required. *This issue is entirely exhausted*, as only 2000 were made. Although on the spot, and favourably situated for getting official stamps, I know that no genuine ones of this issue are available, as I have tried to get them. It is stated that the die, being so imperfect, was remelted (*sic*) and attempts made to make another. This was also a failure, and so a die was ordered from Canton, where this work is well done, and the *second* issue made. These have the same device as the first, only much clearer, and only three kinds of *either* variety were issued, *viz.* (face value), 3, 5, and 10 cents, in red, violet, and blue respectively (the first issue were in red, violet and green respectively). There have been no surcharged stamps. The second issue is on perforated paper specially got for the purpose. The greatest care will have to be exercised in accepting stamps after the republic ceases, as the die is in the possession of the Chinese associated with Liu, and as they are quite aware of the financial opening these stamps afford, *may* go on manufacturing them. Liu has already opened negotiations with the Japanese, so the whole thing will last ten days or a fortnight. [The letter is dated the 10th October.] These stamps have been compulsorily used for *native* letters going hence to the mainland of China, and all letters sent through native Post Offices had to be viséd at the Custom House to see they had the stamps affixed, so thus far they are genuine. *The Customs has been under the supervision of a foreigner, who, it is said, is or was a member of a foreign syndicate to sell these stamps.* There have been only 5000 of the second issue impressed *up to date*, but whether more may be made in the interests of speculation before the end actually arrives, I cannot say."

19. **Tonga.** Correspondents in Australia having drawn our attention to the issue of Stamps now being sold, which consist of stamps prepared some time since (but not issued, as it is said the reigning monarch was not pleased with his portrait), and which stamps have now been issued with a variety of surcharges, in a variety of colours, and in a variety of types, we endorse the opinion expressed by our Australian friends, that these stamps are unnecessary and speculative.

20. **Korea.** Pending further investigations, caution should be exercised with regard to a new issue of stamps of this country.

Referring to Circular No. 3:

16. **Sweden.** We have received from a trustworthy correspondent in Sweden (who has obtained his informa-

tion direct from the authorities) a letter, in which he states that the Swedish Post Office does *not* intend to make a commemorative issue of any kind. We have much pleasure in making this announcement.

GORDON SMITH,

Secretary, S.S.S.S.

HERBERT R. OLDFIELD,

Secretary to the Special Committee,
London Philatelic Society.

December, 1895.



PHILATELY IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

GOVERNMENT CLERKS CHARGED WITH STEALING "I.R. OFFICIAL" AND "GOVERNMENT PARCELS" STAMPS.

A CASE of some interest to stamp collectors, and especially to British Specialists, came before the Cardiff Stipendiary magistrate, Mr. T. W. Lewis, on Tuesday, December 17th, Arthur J. Williams, 25, and Tom Rees, 44, were charged on a warrant, "they being persons employed in the public service of her Majesty, for that they, between the 11th day of October, 1895, and the 20th day of November, 1895, at the borough of Cardiff, did feloniously steal certain chattels belonging to her Majesty, to wit, certain Inland Revenue Official and Government parcels of stamps, of the value of £30 15s. 6d." Mr. G. H. Denis, London, prosecuted on behalf of the Inland Revenue, Mr. Morgan Rees appeared for defendant Rees, Mr. W. Scott for Williams, and Mr. Roe watched the case on behalf of Mr. V. Brukewich.

In opening, Mr. Dennis said the charge to be inquired into had reference to the larceny of certain stamps, which were supplied for the use of the public service. The defendants were employed in one of the offices of the surveyor of taxes at Cardiff. Having explained fully the method in which the surveyor of taxes is supplied with stamps of higher values, the learned counsel said that some time in November it was ascertained that unused stamps, of the value of £1 and 10s., were offered for sale in the market. Investigation was made, and eventually the stamps were traced to the offices of the Cardiff surveyor of taxes. Inquiries were made of a Mr. Brukewich, who had had some stamps passing through his hands and it appeared that they had been offered to him for sale by defendant Williams. He wished here to put in a letter written to Mr. Brukewich by defendant Rees on official note-paper, and dated October 8th, 1895, in which he wrote, "The bearer, Williams, has some official stamps for you to see. I believe you use to collect them. The used ones you are welcome to. The unused ones, only just received, he will explain to you about." Defendant Williams, with the letter, produced some stamps, which were purchased by Mr. Brukewich. On the 16th of October Williams called again upon Mr. Brukewich, and brought another letter, signed by Rees, and enclosing some Inland Revenue stamps, the sender intimating that "these will be the last I expect we can let you have," and adding, "We have to pay the value of the stamps in case you require them. We are not benefited; of course, unless you give something for the trouble." Williams called on further occasions, and sold more to Mr. Brukewich.

Mr. Thomas Ernest Bell, surveyor of Taxes in Cardiff, was the first witness. He said defendants had been employed in his office. He gave them no authority to take certain stamps in October. Williams, when spoken to, admitted selling the stamps, but urged that he had made them good by substituting penny stamps, which he had purchased from the Post Office. On the 30th of November, witness discharged both defendants. On the 4th of December, Rees handed him a letter, of date December 2nd, 1895, and signed by Williams,

in which the latter alleged that he had mislaid stamps (£8), and had not found them since. Fearing he would have to pay the value of them, he had a second requisition made out and hoped that in sparing some to Mr. Brukewich, he would have been able to meet the deficiency out of any excess value which he received from him. Mr. Rees (his fellow clerk) knew nothing of the transactions with Mr. Brukewich, and was entirely ignorant of the matter. Subsequently, at an interview, defendant Williams said, in the presence of his brother, his father, and his mother, "I am very sorry it has happened, but through it all I have been put up to it by Rees."

In the course of further examination, witness admitted receiving a letter from Williams, relating to the irregularities. In it, Williams said that his former letter was written at the instigation of Rees, who made him write it very much against his will. It was copied from a letter given him by Rees, which letter was subsequently burned. The letter went on to say that on October 24th, he (Williams) drew stamps to the value of £10 and subsequently sold them for £12 10s. to Mr. Brukewich. On November 5th, he obtained a requisition order of £5 of stamps, and Rees suggested that the order should be altered by adding £9 10s. This was done, and Rees said he knew where he could deposit extra stamps. For this £9 10s. worth of stamps he received £11 from Mr. Brukewich. Rees told him to go to Mr. Brukewich, and when he returned Rees said "Let us share the money equally." In this letter Williams also stated, that at the instigation of Rees, he had altered a £5 into £9, and then enclosed the altered stamp in a letter to Mr. Brukewich. For this he received £10 10s., which money was divided with Rees. In conclusion, Williams made an appeal to Mr. Bell, to use his influence to obtain mercy for him.

The Magistrate: It is perfectly obvious, after the examination of Mr. Bell, and after the cross-examination, that Williams, at all events, must go for trial.

Mr. Scott: I was going to ask you to adopt a different course.

The Magistrate: I could not adopt another course. Of course, I say nothing—I never do—as to the weight of evidence.

Mr. Harris, deputy surveyor, then gave evidence as to what requisitions he signed, and was followed by Phillip Congton, a clerk in the collector's department, who gave evidence as to the requisitions presented to him.

Mr. George Hallett, shipbroker, Penarth, spoke to defendant Rees giving him some cancelled stamps when he was in the office. Witness, who is a collector, asked Rees if he could get any higher value stamps. Later on Rees gave him three stamps, which, he said, he would have to re-place. The face value of the stamps was 35s., and witness paid him quite double, he should think. The transaction occurred nearly two years ago.

Mr. V. Brukewich, a ship-store merchant and also a stamp collector, next gave evidence. The first he heard of either prisoners was a letter from Rees, which Williams brought him, offering stamps for sale. They were higher value stamps, worth £7 or £8. He paid the face value, plus 30s., to Williams. At a later date Williams brought him other stamps, worth about £10, and he paid on that occasion between £2 and £3 above the face value. With those stamps was a letter from Rees, who said they received double the face value from Mr. Hallett, who was also a collector. The last and fourth transaction between witness and prisoner took place about November 10th. On each occasion he paid bearer 30s. to 50s. above the face value.

Mr. C. Bowden, Solicitor's clerk, deposed to purchasing four or five sets of stamps from Mr. Brukewich, for which he paid £25, but had now disposed of them to another stamp collector.

Mr. Percy M. Bright, of Bournemouth, said he had obtained stamps from Mr. Brukewich. Their face value was £8, and he estimated the marketable value of the whole at £40 or £50, possibly more. Witness communicated with the Post Office authorities, because he did not believe it was legal, and had never bought unused stamps before.

Mr. Eldred Funnell, collector of Inland Revenue at Cardiff, gave formal evidence. He was instructed to see the prisoners,

and at the interview Williams read and accepted Rees's explanation.

Finally, the defendants were committed to the Cardiff Quarter Sessions, and were admitted to bail, each in £200 and one surety of £200 or two in £100.

CURRENT 1d. STAMP FORGERIES.—A MYTH.

UNDER the heading, "*Forged Stamps at a Post Office*," the following par has gone the usual round after having first appeared in the columns of the "D.T.":—

A CORRESPONDENT calls attention to a subject which seems to suggest that some ingenious miscreants are engaged in forging British postage stamps, and perform the work so well that the spurious article deceives even trained officials. He writes:—"In sending to a branch post office to-day for some penny stamps, my messenger brought me back a very clever imitation of the genuine stamp, which even the unusually dark hue did not betray till it was found they bore no gum, nor the watermark. The rule that mistakes cannot be rectified after the purchaser leaves the counter was relaxed on the lady discovering that she possessed other similar imitations, which instead of being supplied by the Department, had probably been exchanged over the counter for cash. The public would do well to examine their purchases of stamps." Of course, as usual, it is a mare's nest. We have made enquiries in the proper quarters and find that there is *absolutely* no truth whatever about it. A party bought some stamps from a branch office which had no gum, and were evidently exchanged after having been soaked in water, which somewhat deepened the colour. The stamps were returned to the office, and the party in question has since admitted to an official of the G.P.O. enquiry depot, that she had not *even looked* for the watermark! There are *no forgeries* of English Stamps whatever in circulation.

LONDON AUCTIONEERS, PLEASE COPY!

"An innovation in connection with auction sales will be given a trial here this week," writes the Chicago correspondent of *Meeke's Weekly*. "A large placard, giving the number and catalogue value of each lot will be shown while the lot is being sold. For instance, the figures '83—£12' would appear while lot 83, the 90-cent Justice, was being disposed of." Surely this is a notion that might well be adopted by London Auctioneers!

LITERATURE FOR ENGLISH SPECIALISTS.

It is never safe to judge by first numbers. Number 1 of the *English Specialists' Journal* provided us with the worst disappointment we have had this season, and this has been thoroughly endorsed by a good many foreign papers, among others the *D. B. Z.* Number 2 is much better and we are right glad to see it. If Mr. L'Estrange Ewen keeps up to the level of his No. 2, the *English Specialists' Journal* will become a power in the land. We fancy we detect the master hand of a certain very eminent English specialist in some of the notes and articles. There are passages we should like to quote, especially in the articles on "Minor Varieties" and "English Stamps in the West Indies," but that would be invading the province of our Review Editor.

THE FABLE OF THE MILLION STAMPS.

Just how the old story of a million stamps being sufficient to get a patient into a hospital originated may be unknown to many of our readers. It appears that in the early days of stamp collecting, the nuns of a large Roman Catholic charity in Ireland were promised a large sum of money on the condition that they collected 1,000,000 stamps within a given time. The more readily to do this the ladies advertised for gifts of stamps, and as a result, secured such vast quantities that their efforts were successful, and they duly received the promised donation. The million stamps were sold to a speculator, and ultimately exported to China, and used to decorate the walls of one of the "tea factories" in Canton. Then a statement, emanating from the fertile imagination of some irresponsible Pressman, appeared in all the papers to the effect that a million used postage stamps would get a patient into a hospital or an orphan into a home. Time has not killed that story, nor has long custom staled its infinite variety.

FORGERY PROVED BY MEANS OF A STAMP.

SWEET are the uses of philatelic advertisements. In the case of Regina v. Beaver and Beaver, for forgery, tried before Mr. Justice Conolly at the Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court of Auckland, New Zealand, on Friday, October 13th, the following evidence was given with respect to the advertisements which have appeared on the backs of New Zealand postage stamps. The document which the prisoners were charged with forging, purported to be an agreement signed in 1886, with a sixpenny brown adhesive stamp on it.

W. G. Fletcher being sworn said, "I am a clerk in the stamp office at Auckland. I am also a stamp collector."

Mr. Justice Conolly: "They do not use such a common word as that now. What is the word?"

Mr. T. Cooper (Counsel for the prisoners): "Philatelist is the word your Honour."

Mr. Tole (Crown Prosecutor): "When were the advertisements put on the back of stamps?"

Witness: "In March, 1892, not before."

Mr. Tole: "Are you prepared to say if there is any advertisement at the back of that stamp?" The document alleged to be forged, was handed to witness, who examined it and then said: "There is an advertisement on the back."

Mr. Tole: "Can you say what the advertisement is about?"

Witness: "The words are, 'For Asthma, use Bonnington's Irish Moss.'"

Mr. Tole: "You are prepared to say that without removing the stamp from the document?"

Witness: "Yes."

Mr. Tole: "Can you produce a stamp with that advertisement upon it?"

Witness: "I cannot produce a sixpenny one, but on this sheet of fourpenny stamps there is the same advertisement." (Sheet of unused stamps produced with advertisements on back.) "The advertisement can be very easily read when held up to the light."

Cross-examined by Mr. Cooper: "Do you know when that issue of sixpenny stamps was first issued in N.Z.?"

Witness: "You mean the same design and colour?"

Mr. Cooper: "Leaving the question of the advertisement alone, was it not issued first in 1882?"

Witness: "Yes; of the same design and colour."

Mr. Cooper: "How do you know that the advertisements were not issued until 1892?"

Witness: "From my knowledge of the Stamp Department as a clerk and also from the reports of the Post Office Department. They are given in the Appendix to the Journals of the House of Representatives of N.Z., 1893, part 2, in which it is stated that: 'The Department had been repeatedly urged to agree to this method of advertising, and eventually decided to give it a trial.'"

"Are you quite sure that there were no advertisements on the backs of postage stamps before the 1st March, 1892?"

Witness: "I give that date because that is the date on which I came to the Office at Auckland."

Mr. Cooper: "You are only speaking of the time during which you have been in Auckland?"

Witness: "Yes."

Mr. Cooper: "Before you came to Auckland there were no advertisements on the backs of stamps?"

Witness: "No."

Re-examined by Mr. Tole: "Were not the perforations different in 1892?"

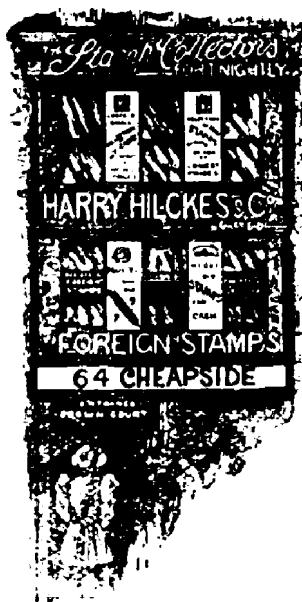
Witness: "The perforation 10 was not supposed to have occurred before 1892."

Mr. Tole: "Can you say how many perforations there are on that stamp?"

Witness then proceeded to measure the perforations with a gauge and answered: "It is a 10 perforation. When we say that we mean the number of perforations in the space of 20 millimetres. Previous to 1892 it was 11½. I am quite sure that there were no advertisements before that date on the backs of stamps."

Witness then left the box, having proved the guilt of the prisoners to the satisfaction of all present, simply by means of an incontrovertible philatelic fact.

It is a striking tribute to the practical utility of Philately.



OUR subscribers will be agreeably surprised that this issue reaches them by post on Saturday morning. We have made arrangements to post all subscribers' copies direct from our printing office at Bournemouth, on Friday, partly in order to catch the out-going Eastern mail, thus obtaining for our readers in the far East, a saving of eight days in the receipt of their copies, and partly because we have recently received so many grumbles from subscribers in the country that they do not receive their copies until Monday morning. So that the new arrangement will be an advantage all round. I may here mention that the FORTNIGHTLY has so far never been late. The paper has always been on sale at 10 o'clock on the Saturday morning, and all subscribers' copies were in the post by two o'clock. We have therefore been in no way responsible for the late delivery.

Auction Summary.—As far as we can gather from letters received up to date, from the recipients of early copies of this book, the opinion is one of general satisfaction. The little book seems to have fully met the want it was meant to fill. The delay in the execution of the early orders was partly occasioned by our decision to provide every copy with a finger index, and, owing to the large amount of work in hand for Christmas our binders were unable to deliver with their usual promptness. The book may appear somewhat dear at 2s. 6d., but as it gives a very fair and correct idea of the run of prices for the last 12 months—fairer and more correct than any catalogue—it should soon pay for the initial outlay.

Stamps of South Africa.—The latest work of the London Philatelic Society on the South African Colonies has at last appeared, and as usual, it is excellent in every way. A very vast improvement to our minds, is the insertion of the illustrations amongst the letterpress; that makes reference at once much easier and saves a great deal of time when studying the work. We hear, by the way, of a very curious mistake having occurred in the letter of one critic, who complained that the surcharged stamps issued by the British Government on taking over the stock of stamps from the British East African Company, were not included, although Mr. Tilleard stated in the preface that everything had been included. Evidently the critic in question forgot that the stamps bearing the surcharge "British East Africa" are a government issue and not a Company issue. Mr. Tilleard is therefore quite right in stating that all the issues of the Company have been included. Of this book only 500 copies have been printed. 250 went to the members of the "London Society," and 250 were disposed of to the trade, and we understand that there are no more copies available at the Society's office. The book is published at 10/-, and 12/6 each, is the price now asked for those few copies still in the hands of the trade; and we fear the price will rise still higher very soon.

HARRY HILCKES.



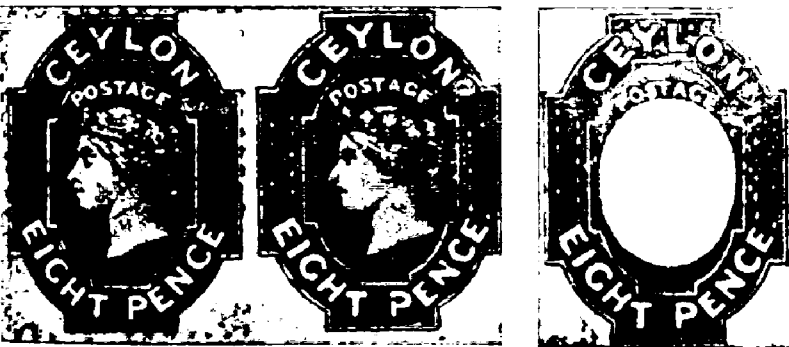
BY HARRY HILCKES.

AUSTRIAN MERCURIES.

IN our last number we published a letter from the Vienna Philatelic Society on the above subject. I have now had an opportunity to peruse a mass of correspondence which recently appeared in German contemporaries; it appears that there is a large amount of difference of opinion in Vienna. To get at the bottom of the controversy, it is important that the Vienna Society should have as much material as possible, and I earnestly appeal to all those English collectors who have one or more of these stamps in their possession, to lend same to the Vienna Society, whose address I gave in last number. I can personally guarantee that the Society will take every care of the specimen entrusted to them.

CEYLON 8d. IMPERF.

I HAVE been very fortunate in obtaining a proof impression of a new forgery: evidently emanating from the old plates, which are, however, carefully retouched:

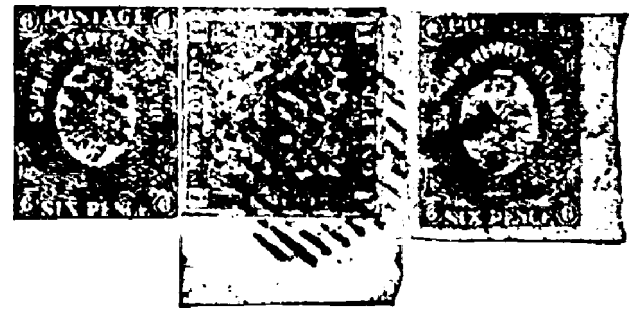


GENUINE. OLD FORGERY. NEW FORGERY.

Of course it is only a conjecture of mine so far, but there is no doubt that once the new forgery is completed it will prove a very dangerous one indeed. The star paper seems to be specially made. The design is far less scratchy than before, the colour matches well, but, and thank goodness there is a but, there are discrepancies in the design, which although minute can be easily distinguished from my illustration. The copy I obtained is without the Queen's Head, evidently that was not yet finished. I think I know who makes this article, but silence is golden — sometimes.

FORCED POSTMARKS OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

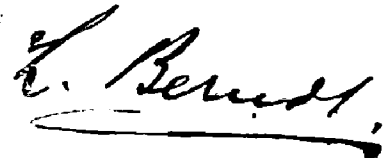
MAJOR EVANS is very hard to be convinced once he has settled down to a full grown opinion, and perhaps I am also somewhat of an obstinate turn of mind and like to know the "hang of things" till I cry *pater peccari* and knuckle under to somebody else's dictum. I am afraid, however, on the question of postmarks I shall never agree with anyone who is not of my own way of thinking. The other day a friendly dealer (yes, I mean it really; there are still a few friendly ones), asked my opinion on some Newfoundland stamps which are much rarer used than unused. *Forged* was my unhesitatingly-given answer. But I have seen these very same stamps in the shops of eminent West-end dealers. "I cannot help that, was my reply, but to my mind the stamps have a forged postmark," and here they are:



GENUINE. FORGED. FORGED.

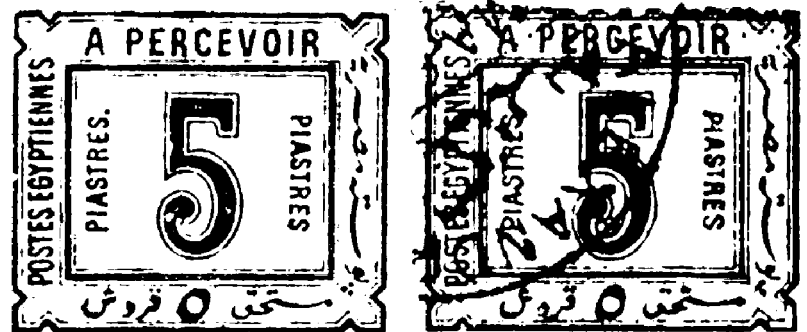
Although, owing to the fact that the colour in the first copy, the genuine one, is somewhat too intense to show up the postmark quite clearly, anyone with a little philatelic training should at once notice that the genuine postmark is almost round, whereas the forged one is an ellipse, let alone the difference in the postmarking ink, which is very marked, being fresh, so, the whole impression also looks too new. I have seen other values with the same postmark and think that stamp dealers should be more careful in buying everything brought into their shops. The Strand appears to me to be the happy hunting ground for new fakes. When will dealers learn that stamp-dealing does not spell money-making only? The third stamp I photograph is a very sorry attempt at a postmark. It came from Paris some three years ago, and was evidently done with a cork and ink.

We append signature of party who offered these forgeries. The same represents his endorsement on a cheque.



EGYPT 5 PIASTRES.

ANYONE who does not follow the well trodden path of "fashion-lists," (spare me shaves of Johnson!) these philatelists, who, to speak with Mr. W. T. Wilson, follow the "mode," and collect what everybody else also collects, will have found it most difficult to obtain reliable information on any out-of-the-way countries, such as Egypt, etc. I append illustration of a forgery, which is one of the most difficult to detect at a moment's notice.



GENUINE. Perf. clean cut. FORGERY. Perf. rough cut.

It was made in 1891 by some ingenious "Turk" to defraud the Post Office, and if it is considered that these high values are only used very rarely, and by the Post Officials themselves, it is plain, that only a comparatively small number can exist used with a genuine postmark, as in the above instance. I bought this stamp from one of the largest English dealers, who nearly threw me out of his office, some eighteen months ago, when I told him that the stamp was bad.

The best test is the perforation, which is clean cut in the genuine, and very roughly cut in the forgery. The "P" in the word "piastres" on the right, is leaning towards the letter "I" almost touching it, the Turkish inscription is totally wrong, and all "S's" are very badly drawn.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, DECEMBER 28, 1895.



BETWEEN OURSELVES.

WE have had our misgivings as to the collectability—wretched word!—of Samoan stamps. Yet a fairly good case for these

stamps is made out by Mr. E. W. Hounsom, of Catford, a philatelist who has displayed for some years past a lively interest in the postal status of the labels in question. Apropos of our recent remarks under the heading of "Samoa Past and Present," Mr. Hounsom draws our attention to certain passages in *Filatelic Facts and Fallacies*, the enterprising little paper published by W. Sellschopp & Co., of San Francisco, a firm deeply interested in Samoan and Hawaiian Stamps. In these articles the evidence of a prominent official of the San Francisco Post Office, (through which office passes all the mail matter coming from Apia to the States), is adduced to show that letters from Samoa *prepaid in full* are received for free distribution to addressees in the United States, but are not accepted for delivery in other countries unless the postage *from* the United States is prepaid in coin by the Samoan Postmaster. This much we should perhaps have hesitated to accept on the unsupported evidence of a San Francisco official, who might conceivably be an interested party; but all doubt is dissipated by the production of a dispatch from the Superintendent of Foreign Mails at Washington, D.C., expressly setting forth that though there is no formal postal convention in force between the United States and Samoa, yet correspondence is exchangeable between the two countries, "articles upon which the postage has been prepaid in full being required to be delivered in the country of destination free of charge for additional postage."

This very clearly explains why Samoan letters received in this country *via* San Francisco are franked with U.S.A. as well as Samoan stamps. But it occasionally happens that the Samoan stamps successfully frank a letter all the way. In all such cases the letters must come *via* New Zealand, for our correspondent Mr. Hounsom holds a letter from the General Post Office, dated April 20th, 1894, and signed, "H. Buxton Forman," in which it is stated that:

This department learns that, by arrangement between the Post Offices of New Zealand and Samoa, Samoan postage stamps are treated in New Zealand as available for the prepayment of correspondence forwarded by way of that Colony from Samoa to other countries. On the other hand, the United States Post Office has

agreed to recognise such stamps as available for correspondence reaching San Francisco in the mails from Samoa in the case only of letters intended for delivery in the United States.

Thus, if we adhere to the principle of the non-collectability of local stamps, we find ourselves confronted with this curious state of affairs: that Samoan stamps on letters despatched *via* New Zealand are postage stamps in the widest philatelic sense of the word, while the same labels sent *via* San Francisco are stamps that will only serve for a restricted area, and therefore locals!

Ordinarily such straw-splitting as this would appeal only to our sense of humour, but their are certain "ways that are dark and tricks that are vain" about Postmaster Davis, of Apia. Mr. Hounsom has shown us that this worthy will sell you a set of Samoan Stamps (face value 4s. 10d.) for 3s., with a charmingly neat postal cancellation thrown in. This is postmarking to order of the most barefaced kind; and though Messrs. Sellschopp try to palliate it, they only succeed in giving the transaction a shadier look. Another thing that has puzzled us greatly is the declaration by Messrs. Sellschopp in their issue of October, 1893, that, "we have made arrangements with Mr. Davis for the sole control of these cancelled stamps." Doubtless Messrs. Sellschopp, who bear a high reputation for honesty and fair-dealing, have dropped this class of trade since then. P.C.B.

(We have been requested to publish the following letter which we do so far without any comment. We hope Mr. Smith will favour us with a reply which the letter undoubtedly demands.—Eds.)

MR. GORDON SMITH, SECRETARY "S.S.S.S.",
LONDON, ENGLAND.

MY DEAR SIR,—We have been several times favoured by you with circulars, etc., relative to the business of the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps and for which please accept our thanks. We appreciate very much indeed that you considered our firm of importance enough in aiding the purposes the Society has in view. Allow us to say, however, that from the time of our commencing business in the stamp line we never handled, bought or sold any of those stamps which we ourselves considered of a speculative nature, and we are pleased to see that the larger English firms now follow in our footsteps; that is to say if the large English houses had followed our policy long ago, there would be no necessity for the S.S.S.S. Those parties who now started in checking the evil are the guilty people who created the nuisance, and their efforts at present I do not consider anything better than dust in the eyes of the collecting public.

In a number of a philatelic paper just issued, we find the following paragraphs in an article treating on the issue of a provisional stamp necessitated by legitimate purposes of the Post Office. "But the postmaster had forgotten about the local philatelists, specialists and speculators, or whatever we are to call them," (that points to the agents of the stamp dealers). Or perhaps he did not deem it his duty to take their existence into his consideration, and the consequence is that the stamp which for ordinary postal purposes would have lasted some weeks, is bought up in half-an-hour, and in the course of the afternoon they are being fought for in the streets at twenty or thirty times their face value. Are you not aware, my dear Sir, of the wide-spread advertisements of those people, whom we consider the guilty ones, "requesting correspondents in any part of the world to send us stamps of any new or provisional issues which may appear in their country, and we shall remit by return of mail, allowing a good bonus?" Early intimation of any projected new issues would be valued, as we are especially desirous to procure early supplies of anything new.

You undoubtedly also know that the big guns (excuse the slang) are boasting of having outstanding accounts with postmasters in all parts of the world, to be used by these, their agents, to buy stamps immediately after a new issue comes out. We have been informed by a party who visited this country not long ago, coming from West Africa, that the Postmaster of his native place accumulated an amount of pretty near £2,000, which were sent to him by English dealers and

collectors, who had heard that a provisional stamp would soon be issued in his Colony, and they wanted the same as soon as out, allowing the fair bonus above referred to, putting the same down as 10 per cent. above face. The Postmaster was in need of £200 which he could easily make by creating the new provisional. We suppose this is plain evidence sustaining our opinion that the wholesale importers in your country are the most to blame for the present state of affairs. It seemed to us somewhat ridiculous when we read the first circular of the S.S.S.S., stating that commencing with a certain date the founders of the S.S.S.S. will cease to deal in any stamps they consider speculative and issued after that date. The true meaning of this willingness to suppress the evil is simply this: what they now have in stock they will unload upon the collectors, and be good "possibly" in the future. The old sinner when caught also said "I will not do it again, but what I have done you must not take so seriously."

Perhaps you remember that some years ago, I think it was late in the 80's, one of our best philatelists started an Anti-surcharge Society, and this movement was ridiculed to a great extent by the British philatelic papers, and we have seen in writing when the founder of the Anti-surcharge Society wrote to the firm of Stanley Gibbons, asking them to publish a circular of the Anti-surcharge Society that they refused to do so, "because it would be detrimental to their business." What a change of mind since then! We do not wish to be personal in any way, but cannot avoid entirely to mention this fact, to prove that the sinners and pharisees are now converted into publicans, and we sincerely hope that they will continue to follow the path that leads to heaven.

You will have noticed it that we repeatedly refer to British Wholesalers. We do not know of any large importers of speculative stamps on this side of the water, and if anybody would point out to us that the Scott Stamp & Coin Co., should be counted amongst the sinners, it would behoove me to say that this firm already in the first instalment of their catalogue for Advanced Collectors, several times pointed out that they are not very enthusiastic about certain stamps, because they did not consider them issued for legitimate purposes but only made for collectors. As I do not have the journal on hand, I could not quote literally the wording, but I am sure it is to this effect and fairness would require to point this out, especially as none of the American firms are ever in such a break neck hurry to secure provisionals which later on might turn out to be quite unnecessary. We can all here well afford to take our chances as to that.

Thanking you again for your kindness of sending us the circulars of the S.S.S.S., we think you will see that doing so in the future would be an "unnecessary issue" as far as we ourselves are concerned.

Very respectfully yours,

New York, Dec. 5th, 1895. R. F. ALBRECHT & CO.

Announcements of Hilckes' Enquiry Bureau.

WE have received two further letters from Messrs. Denhurst of Preston, and Mr. Girton of Cambridge, both writing to thank us for having published the autograph of D'avricourt, etc. We are glad to see we do some good.

Jos. C. Tayar, Malta.—We have received numerous complaints about this party, who offers stamps in receipt of P.O. 2/6, and fails to reply once he gets the cash. So far we have no evidence of actual fraud, but should any of our readers be able to furnish us with particulars we shall be glad to investigate it.

[We would esteem it a favour if readers would communicate with us in every case where they have reason to believe that they are being fleeced. We shall investigate every case submitted to us.]

Leeward Islands Reminders.

(A Paper read before the City of London Philatelic Club).

By HARRY HILCKES.

SINCE so many conflicting accounts have recently appeared about the Leeward Island Reminders, I thought it would be of interest to give some figures of what proved to be the biggest stamp contract ever concluded by Government.

On the 20th August, 1891, the Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands, invited tenders for the purchase of the entire stock, and at the same time giving details and particulars of how many stamps of each value were then on hand:

LEEWARD ISLANDS POSTAGE STAMPS.

TENDERS are invited by the Government of the Leeward Islands Colony for the purchase of the undermentioned number, a few more or a few less, of the obsolete issue of the Colony's Postage Stamps and Post Cards. The Government have called in all the stamps and cards in the hands of Postmasters and other officials and the number advertised for sale form the whole stock in the possession of the Government. Both stamps and cards are unused. Plates and dies will be destroyed.

The Government is not bound to accept the highest or any tender and reserves to itself the right to accept or object any portion of any tender.

Tenders to be made in writing on or before the 31st December, 1891, either to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Downing Street, London, or to the Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands at Antigua, West Indies.

STAMPS.

CARDS.

	1-	6d	4d	2½d	1d	½d	1d	½d	2d	3d
Antigua	1387	6300	3464	26009	110749	11064	—	—	2221	23914
St. Kitts	1540	2505	29122	13044	42631	36521	2372	1623	2040	2058
Nevis	1457	2214	4332	5045	58721	7227	1006	603	1030	985
Dominica	1428	3608	9178	9238	19290	18307	964	1161	183	204
Montserrat	—	1160	7232	3977	5163	5137	754	461	143	737
Virgin Islands	3801	6408	8746	10007	3999	17364	2958	1668	—	—

The total face value £4788 odd.

By command of the Governor.

FRED. EVANS,

Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands

Antigua, West Indies, 20th August, 1891.

How careful and at the same time how careless the Government officials were in compiling this list may be gathered from the following:—Under the heading Antigua, 2,391½ postcards to the value of 3d. are enumerated, the odd half no doubt means half a reply card, and under the rubric Penny stamps, they gave the large number of 110,749, which, however, in the end proved to be only 74,989, because the clerk happened to count a large number of half panes as full sheets. This mistake was somewhat awkward in parcelling off the forty £100 lots which Messrs. Thompson sold in the first instance. Naturally they based their calculations when parcelling off the forty lots, on the larger number of stamps, and when he cleared up the entire parcel he found some 35,000 or about one-third of this value short. Then again the Government tender only stated that 2,505 sixpenny St. Christopher's were on hand; evidently there was no philatelist in the Colonial Office or he would have noticed that 1217 out of these were 6d. olive green CA. and 1288 of the 6d. green CC.

Another mistake happened with the 1/- Dominica stamps which are enumerated as 1428, out of which, however, 774 were with watermark CA. and 654 with watermark CC. This leads us to a very pertinent question. When, and how many, of the CA. in each of the above instances were issued. Taking the figures given as a guide, I should think that the estimate I publish in this week's FORTNIGHTLY is very near the truth, i.e., St. Christopher, 6d. CA. olive green, about 1,500 copies; Dominica, 1/- CA., about 1,000 copies.

It is very unlikely that more stamps should have been printed of such high values considering the large quantities

which must have been on hand when the order for fresh supply was sent to London.

The face value of the lots actually sold by the Government was £4,539 5s. 2d., which at that time was catalogued about £28,000. To-day the lot would come to nearly £80,000, and sell quickly at that price. Not a bad percentage on capital outlay of £5,000 odd—the price Messrs. Thompson paid.

Dealers in England did not take very kindly to this purchase, and I believe I am right in saying that the chief orders came from America. A good many lots were also sold to the Continent. At the present time no wholesale lots are to be had and the few still in the hands of Mr. Thompson are only sold at retail prices.

Naturally, when Mr. Thompson concluded his purchase he made anxious enquiries after the plates, and in May, 1894, the following letter was sent to him by the Crown Agents of Downing Street:

Downing Street, London,
24th May, 1894.

Leeward Islands.

GENTLEMEN,—In reply to your letter of the 22nd instant, I have to say that if you will inform us which of the Antigua, Nevis, Montserrat, Dominica, or St. Kitt's stamp plates you would wish to have cancelled and sent to you, we will consider whether your request can be agreed to. The cost of cancelling the plates would be about 14/- for each plate.

The Virgin Islands stamps were printed from lithographic stones, which can only be cancelled by rubbing off the stones.

After settling all outstanding questions, we will give you a certificate as to the plates having been destroyed, and that no stamps have been struck from them since the date of the last supplies to the several Presidencies.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

E. E. BLAKE.

Messrs. T. H. Thompson & Co.,
2, Cockton Hill Terrace,
Bishop Auckland.

(To be concluded).

[We have photographed the above two plates and shall reproduce them in our next No.]

City of London Philatelic Club.

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Committee for Season 1895-96.

Vice-Presidents, Mr. H. Hilckes and Mr. John J. Lane.

Hon. Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent, Mr. J. E. Joselin.

Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. Forbes.

Messrs. H. A. Macmillan, H. J. Bignold, W. Morley, N. Z. Drachachis, F. B. Carr, H. Thompson, L. Rockliffe, and W. G. Hawkins.

Press Secretary, Mr. Percy C. Bishop.

Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London.

The second meeting of the season was held at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, E.C., on Monday, Dec. 16th, when a very interesting paper was read by Mr. Harry Hilckes on the Leeward Islands remainders (a full report of which is given in another part of this paper). Great interest was shown by the members in many of the official documents and original plates kindly lent by Mr. T. H. Thompson (late of Bishop Auckland). At the conclusion of the paper, sheets of many of the issues were exhibited.

A vote of thanks was proposed to Messrs. Hilckes and Thompson by Mr. J. E. Joselin, seconded by Mr. C. Forbes.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, the 30th instant, when Mr. John J. Lane, who was unavoidably absent at the last meeting, has promised to show the second portion of his collection of West Indians, also those of the United States.

HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, *The Stamp News*, and *The Stamp Collectors' Journal*.

From France: *L'annonce Timbrologique, Revue Philatelique*.
From Germany: *General Anzlinger für Philatelie, Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt, and Die Post*.

From the United States: *The American Journal of Philately, The Metropolitan Philatelist, The Evergreen State Philatelist, McKeel's Weekly Stamp News* (Nos. 256 and 257), *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*, and *Philatelic Facts and Fancies*.

From India: *The Indian Philatelist*.

Auction Catalogues from Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper.
Mr. Forbes also thanks Messrs. A. F. Albrecht and Co., New York, for a copy of their Auction Epitome.

(Messrs. Albrecht, state they will be pleased to send on a copy of this Auction Catalogue, regularly, to any member of the Club, on receipt of postcard to that effect).

Also Messrs. C. H. Nunn, for a copy of their *Dealers' Directory*.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members, at our meetings.

Gifts of books and papers for the Library, should be sent to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

GENERAL NOTICES.

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

Intending members will please note that under the new rules (which are now in the hands of the printers, and a copy of which will be sent to all members in the early part of January), that the Subscription for *Country and Foreign Members* is now 5/- per annum.

The Secret Marks of The Stamps of Switzerland—1843-1854.

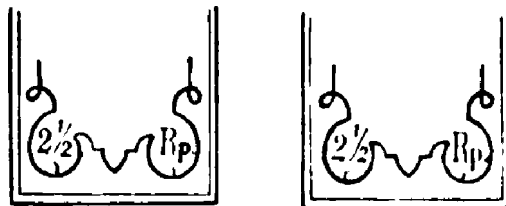
[This article was first published in 1893 by A. Larich, of Munich; the author, Freiherr C. v. Girsewald has kindly revised the German work for the special benefit of the readers of the "S. C. F."]

TRANSLATED BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 66.)

With reference to the frames round the crosses, we can only repeat what we said above, adding only that the Poste Locale without that frame is very rare. Indeed it is one of the rarest of Swiss stamps, and, in the unused condition, it is the rarest one of all.

Very few sheets of these stamps were used; strange to say they were to be had at very few Post Offices only: they seem all to have been used in small villages in the neighbourhood of Zurich, Stafa, Meilen, etc. Mr. Adolf Schultz possessed in his first collection a complete sheet of these unframed Poste

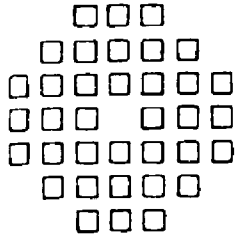


Locale; after the sale of that collection this sheet is said to have gone to America. At present no European collector owns a complete sheet which would be worth at least £300.

To classify these stamps, one has to adopt much the same process as with the Ortspost, only the work is rendered much easier by a queer peculiarity of these Stamps. The value 2½ and the Rp. are found in true open ovals. Under the figure and the letters we see small hooks which have a different shape in each type. In our illustration representing types 11 and 12, the hooks of the first are curved to the left, and those of the latter are very sharply curved to the right. Types Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 have very small hooks that resemble periods. On types 5 and 8, both the hooks are missing; in types 20, 36 and 38 they are missing on the left side, etc. These hooks offer a very safe guide, and it is only rare cases when they look much alike that one is obliged to look for other differences.

The horn over the coat of arms is shaded by strokes disposed lengthwise, it looks therefore darker than in the Ortspost. The cross-strokes are in 3 groups only, numbering respectively 2, 3, 3 lines. The 4th group, near the month-piece is missing. The circle over the horn is three fold, while in the Ortspost it is only double. The cross in the Ortspost has a shaded outline, the frame in the Poste Locale is a simple line; this frame in the Ortspost is sometimes out of place, reaching to the middle of the white cross; in the Poste Locale this frame which was engraved on the plate is always correct.

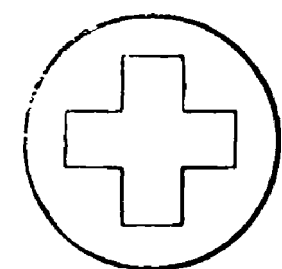
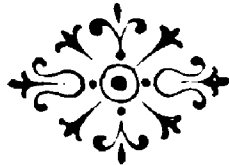
The forgeries of the Poste Locale are better than those of the Ortspost, but the groups of lines in the post horn are incorrect. The circle over the horn is only double and the design of the left corner does not correspond with any of the 40 types. Much more dangerous, however, are genuine stamps with frame around the cross but from which this frame was removed artificially. It is in this case that the utmost caution is necessary.



In some of these stamps the cross was chemically removed or simply erased, and with some care this is easily detected, but better workmen have carefully covered the erased parts with red color, and a mistake is then very easily made. The best way to detect this forgery is to put it in hot water or hold it against the light when wet. Many of these

forgeries have a peculiarly dull appearance.

It is hardly possible to distinguish the cancellation marks of the Ortspost and Poste Locale from those of the following rayon stamps; the following are those that are mostly met with. The black, narrow stroke cancellation like that of the dark green Geneva, 5c.



illustrate was used in the Post Office of Pfyen.

3. Rayon I. II. III.

October, 1850.

- (a) Rayon I. 5 Rp., black and red, dark blue background, with and without framed cross, 40 types.
- (b) Rayon II. 10 Rp., black and red, yellow background, unframed cross, 40 types.

June, 1851.

- (c) Rayon I. 5 Rp., light blue and red, without frame around the cross, 40 types.

1852.

- (d) Rayon III. 15 cts., red, 10 types.
- (e) Rayon III. 15 Rp., red, small figures, 10 types.
- (f) Rayon III. 15 Rp., red, large figures, 10 types.

A. Rayon I.

- 5 Rp., black and red, dark blue background, with and without frame around the cross, 40 types.

With reference to their colors, many varieties of these stamps could be mentioned, as every sheet that came from the press showed differences in shade; we will only mention: dark blue, light blue, blue, bluish grey, greenish blue, bluish violet.

There are 40 types of these stamps; those with cross framed are rarer than those unframed. The differences are again to be sought for in the arabesques. The work of

following them out is here very difficult, because these lines are hard to distinguish on the dark blue background.

The counterfeits are very well done, and only by the help of type comparison may they be detected. Fortunately they are not numerous.

Rayon I. means the first letter district, within which the postage usually costs 5 Rp. By letter district is meant the distance from the sending post office to the receiving one. In the Rayon I. were included those offices less than two hours apart. In Rayon II. were the offices more than two hours but less than ten hours apart, and finally in Rayon III. were all post offices between which the distance was more than ten hours. The postage for the three distances was respectively 5, 10 and 15 Rp. for a simple letter.

(To be continued).



** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

C.S.M.—You wish us to give you the distinguishing marks between the U.S.A. stamps of 1872 and retouched dies of 1873. We are sorry we cannot oblige you. The matter has been fully dealt with in the "S.C.F." under the heading of "Minor Varieties, U.S.A."

EURAS.—It is somewhat difficult to tell you how to clean stamps that have got dirty by too much fingering. Those stamps which are printed in fugitive colours cannot be touched with water, and soft bread is the only thing for them. All those stamps that are printed in fast colours, especially the line-engraved stamps, may be cleaned with a wet camel's hair brush, much as old engravings are cleaned.

O.T. (Hull).—There is no stamp society in Hull. Why not form one? Perhaps the Hull readers of the "S.C.F." will consider the suggestion.

J.P.B.—We quite agree with you that this country was the first to commit the great sin of issuing a commemorative stamp, i.e., the Guildhall postcard; but the S.S.S. cannot act retrospectively, and will only occupy itself with those issues that are now being thrown upon the market.

D.F. (Lavender Hill).—It is quite likely that some of the minor varieties of Queensland, which are due to faulty transfers from the die to the stone, are not catalogued. We should advise you to consult a little book just published by Mr. Hadlow, full particulars of which may be found in our advertising columns.

P.E.R. (Ipswich).—We are afraid we cannot adopt your suggestion, much as we should like to do so. Such a diary of auctions as you suggest would extend to the full width of our page, and would thus occupy far more space than we could spare.

C.W. (Dartmouth).—You will find the catalogue prices of used Japans, as far as they are not given in Gibbons', and in Senf's Catalogue.

G.S.B.—The watermark of the U.S.A. stamps is the letters "U.S.A." in the so-called double-line type spreading over three or four stamps. You should easily see it on any block of ordinary 1 or 2 cent stamps.



OUR FORUM

*** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper*

identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

THE "S.S.S.S. NOT A BENEFACTOR.

DEAR SIRS,—The last number of the "S.C.F." has just come to hand and been perused, as usual, with much pleasure. One thing, however, struck me as unfair, viz.: giving the S.S.S.S. the credit of having caused the St. Antonio fiasco. The S.S.S.S. may be very useful and cheap at 5/- (I do not for a moment doubt it), but it has nothing to do with the St. Antonio failure, and for the simple reason that its first circular is dated 10th June, while the sale of the St. Antonio stamps began on the 13th of the same month. What wrecked the St. Antonio was, first of all, the fiasco of the D. Henrique stamps. Thousands of non-collectors here and elsewhere had speculated largely in these stamps and burnt their fingers considerably, so they were not having any St. Antonios; and secondly, the fear that the remainders would be sold by auction, as was thought would happen to the D. Henrique stamps. Months before the St. Antonios were issued, or the S.S.S.S. existed, I prophesied in Dutch and German papers that the issue would fall flat, and the papers here warned the Committee that they would lose money. So you see there can be no cause to attribute the saving of £20,000 to the S.S.S.S.

Another mistake you make (which I have noticed in many other foreign papers) is attributing these ridiculous issues to "the Government!" This is wrong. The Government has its own speculations, such as the Funchal, Angra, Horta, Congo, Zambesi, &c., issues, the new Continental issue, and so forth; but these commemoration issues are private specs. sanctioned by and issued under control of the Government, any loss (as with the St. Antonio issues) the committee that organised the festivities (in honor of St. Antonio) has to bear.

Apropos, how is it that the S.S.S.S. has not yet mentioned that barefaced swindle, the Mozambique stamps surcharged "St. Antonio," &c., issued in June ult.?

I remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

Lisbon, 4th December, 1895.

C. GEORGE.

[We gladly publish the above, which comes to us from a very painstaking philatelist who has done us many a good turn in the past. Of course our little note on page — was chaff, and we hope our readers understood it as such.—Eds.]

THE D'AVRICOURT CASE.

DEAR SIRS,—I was very pleased to see from the present STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, that my investigations, into the references of D'Avricourt, and the information which these investigations enabled me to give you, have already saved some of your readers from falling into this gentleman's trap.

Doubtless many others besides Mr. Maunder and Mr. Davis have benefited by the publication of D'Avricourt's handwriting, and it appears to me that this system of exposing dishonest "collectors" which you have adopted is the surest means of protecting real philatelists and preventing fraud. The only thing absolutely necessary is that whenever a reader unearths a swindler he must not fail to furnish you with full particulars.

Were this theory put into practice, I am confident that all honest collectors and dealers would feel and be much safer.

The circulation and reputation of your paper will make it an increasingly difficult task for stamp-swindlers to prosper.

Yours truly,

Newcastle-on-Tyne, 18th Dec., 1895. W. MARCHBANK.

THE MEANING OF THE CUBAN SURCHARGE "Y¼."

DEAR SIRS,—Referring to a recent paragraph in the FORTNIGHTLY, in which you spoke of the opinions of "Franciscus" and Herr Friedrich upon the Cuban surcharge "Y¼," will you allow me to state that there can be little doubt that the "Y" of the surcharge is used to signify "and" (which word it really does signify in the Spanish language). Thus "Y¼" means literally "and a quarter." As a resident in Spain at the time the surcharge appeared, I have always supposed this very simple explanation of the "Y¼" surcharge to be the true one.

Yours faithfully,

Brixton, 2nd December, 1895.

H. ATHARLEY.

[Our readers will remember that we dwelt upon this question in our No. 6 last year, when Mr. G. A. Padro declared as his opinion that the above was the real explanation of the letter "Y." That article roused the sarcasm of the D.B.Z., but Mr. Padro's opinion has since been endorsed by such an authority as Mons. Moëis. We may mention that Mr. Padro, who, by the way, is a native of Cuba, will go to Havanna in January and will, by special permission from the Spanish Government, ransack the Post Offices Archives. The results of his researches will duly appear in the "S.C.F."—Eds.]

REFORM NEEDED HERE.

DEAR SIR,—Auctioneers appear to imagine that they give importance to their sales according to the size and stiffness of their catalogues. Stamp Auctioneers apparently are not exempt from this foible, for they persist in printing their catalogues upon paper almost as stiff as cardboard, and of dimensions which render the squeezing of them into modern coat pockets an utter impossibility.

Will you kindly allow me, through the medium of your excellent paper, to draw attention to this little matter, and urge upon the various firms who conduct stamp sales in the metropolis the propriety of issuing catalogues in future printed on thin paper and of 8vo size: i.e., similar to the Scott Co.'s list. Such a change would be a great boon to buyers.

Faithfully yours,

Nov. 9th.

COLLECTOR.

HOW ONE STAMP COLLECTOR COLLECTS.

In an unimportant American newspaper, sandwiched between a gruesome tragedy and a sensational abduction, we find a most intelligent article on stamps. The writer growls at the gumpaps, high prices, and other evils that beset our hobby, and then goes on to say: "There is a remedy, and I have adopted it. I found that in about 1885 there was, almost all over the world, a change of type from the old to the modern and uninteresting form. I cut off my collecting at this aforesaid change of type in 1884-5. I collect adhesives of all countries, excluding Native India, Afghanistan and Shanghai as impossible, incomprehensible, and not members of the Postal Union. I do not collect surcharges, errors, proofs, unused remainders or reprints, or any other catch penny device with which stamp dealers fill their sheets and pockets. Take the standard catalogue for 1895 and draw your pencil through the last ten years' issues, and few will find anything to regret or anything struck out that by any possibility can never increase price!"

Our Reviews of Reviews.

Edited by EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

(Owing to our going to press earlier during Christmas week, we were unfortunately obliged to close the forme without being able to wait for Mr. Nankivell's final copy.—Eps.)

The Transvaal Commemorative Stamp.

THOSE who feel inclined to find fault with the S.S.S.S. for condemning the Transvaal Commemorative 1d. Stamp will do well to read and study the following from the *South African Philatelist*.

We happen to know, and do possibly assert, that certain officials retained large quantities of these stamps. We also know them to have been offered 'over the counter' at a substantial premium. No grosser breach of trust could have been committed. We find it, however, but fair to add that the Postmaster General had no power to act far in this matter, as there were no regulations preventing Postal Officials from having preferential rights over the public. Thus, though legally justified, morally wrong was done.



25,000 sheets (each sheet consisting of 60 stamps) equal to 1,500,000 were printed, representing a face value of £6,250. From the Johannesburg Postmaster's report we learn that although £2,300 face value of these stamps were ordered by him, only £750 were supplied.

From other sources we learn that the Pretoria office received £2,000 worth, while the supply to the other Post Offices of the Republic is estimated at £1,250. This makes a total of £4,000. What became of the stamps representing the balance of £2,250? Why were these not supplied to the various Post Offices to be sold in the usual manner over the counter. We await some official elucidation of the foregoing enquiries.

We strongly advise collectors to "ware wire" and avoid these stamps, as they will find for some considerable time that every demand, no matter how great, will be supplied. This can only be due to the fact that large numbers are still kept in the background from which they will emerge most mysteriously and inexhaustibly when occasion requires.

Indian Official Fleecing.

Our sympathies are with our philatelic friends in India, for a more scandalous piece of official robbery than the levying of full customs duty upon approval sheets of stamps, none of which may be purchased, it would be hard to equal in any civilized state. That this villainous fleecing should be continued after the obvious injustice has been clearly demonstrated only goes to show that the genus "official underling" is the same wooden-headed individual at home and abroad. The only road to a remedy is to go to work to make life to the fleecers absolutely not worth living till the grievance is redressed. If philatelists individually, as well as collectively will systematically set to work and worry the officials, night and day, till a remedy is found, they will win, for the "official underling" soon feels the pinch of voluminous correspondence and the consequent generation of work, of which latter amusement he has as much horror as the stereotyped tramp. The October number of the *Indian Philatelist*, referring to this matter, says:—

The addressee is not allowed to see the contents of a letter before he signs a receipt for the registered article, and, when once the receipt is signed, he is bound to pay the duty, however absurd the valuation may be; for the Collector says plainly that articles cannot be re-assessed.

When some correspondents sent unregistered letters to us containing approval sheets, they were spirited away in transit, showing clearly that any saving in customs duty is more than balanced by the loss of entire consignments.

The only way of obviating these difficulties seems to be to get approval sheets with the prices marked in characters or currency

which the customs cannot understand, and never to attend at the G.P.O., where the procedure is so objectionable. If the stamps are over-assessed, the letter can then be refused and returned to the sender, and trust to the honesty of the P.O. to return it intact.

Of course a 5 per cent. duty on articles actually purchased and imported from abroad nobody could object to, but it is absurd to pay on returns and approval lots, and even lots sent for opinion or examination, and there is no justification whatever for the decidedly unfriendly position taken up by Indian officials in the matter.

On Mounting Stamps.

The Editor of the *Philatelic Record* has the following on the evergreen question of mounting stamps:—

The ordinary mode now is to hinge the stamp on a mount, and to fix the mount on to the page of the album. Wrong in principle, for this exposes the stamp to still more friction. But it has its advantages, as it admits of any special details being noted on the mount under the stamp. Where the great difficulty we have always experienced really lies, is when we want to change the place of a particular stamp so mounted, and leave no mark behind. The best way that we have found is to paste a piece of French pelure paper, the size of the mount, at the top and bottom of the back, and then to fix the mount on the page with a spot of adhesive preparation that leaves no stain behind it. In this way we could take out any stamp that there was any special reason for examining more closely than can be done in the pages of a book, by a simple sacrifice of the bit of paper at the back of the mount. In fixing the hinges, the hinge should not be fixed below the perforation, as in that case when the stamp is turned up the perforation will be doubled up and creased. It should extend to the end of the perforation, and to be perfect should be perforated also, and doubled along the middle of the perforation. The great objections to this mode are that a dozen different gauges are required, and that the hinge is very much weakened. Perhaps it is therefore best not to use gummed mounts, but to fix the stamp on to ungummed paper.

The difficulty of removing a stamp is now got over by a special perforation of the adhesive matter of the hinge. The best hinges now in use will peel off without skimming either the stamp or the album page.

Hints to Specialists

The November number of the *London Philatelist* is full of interesting matter. Mr. W. T. Wilson has stirred up a veritable hornets' nest in his common sense protest against what Mr. Castle, in his leader on the question, terms "the almost volcanic upheaval of prices in regard to some of the fashionable stamps of the West Indies." As this matter has been dealt with editorially in the last number of the "S.C.F.," I turn from it to note Mr. Wilson's hints to specialists. He advises them to leave these fashionables severely alone and take up countries less run after for example, some of the South American States which have not been Seebeckised—as Argentine, Bolivia, Brazil, Chili, &c." and (oh, rash man!) "the much-despised Indian native states!" and then the cultured and able specialist summarises the work to be done into a nutshell, thus:—

There are many others, notably in Europe, well within the range of a modest purse—take one or more of these up, specialize in them, study minutely and carefully every stamp, not alone, but side by side with duplicates of the same; study the papers, watermarks, perforations and colours; the methods of their production; consider the reasons for their use and disuse if obsolete; enquire into the causes for these changes; find out, or estimate where possible, the quantities issued, or used, or likely to have been; in fact, study the stamps you are specializing in from every point of view, and you will find a charm and interest in them far greater than in simply filling up the spaces of a ready-made album. Believe me, profit will come with it; you will soon become master of the situation, and, as you have learnt by this experience which are the prizes, so will be your reward in picking up the gems, of which the collector of fashionable stamps is entirely ignorant.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

Class a—Superb condition, if unused with gum, (mint state), if used, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post-marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked *

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, November 28th & 29th, 1895.

(Continued from page 74).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED		
		£	s.	d.
a	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto on piece	..	..	2 2 0
b	South Australia, 1/- orange, imperf., pair	..	..	3 15 0
b	a single	..	..	1 0 0
a	Switzerland, Neufchatel, 5c. on piece	..	..	2 6 0
a	Vaud, 5c. on entire	..	..	1 14 0
a	Winterthur, 2½r.	..	..	2 8 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue	..	..	2 4 0
a	(1870), 4d. blue, pair, penmark	..	..	1 10 0
b	Tolima, first issue, 5c. black on buff	..	..	1 1 0
b	Trinidad, 1/- blue, rough perf.	..	..	1 8 0
b	United States, Carrier, blue on pink	..	..	3 15 0
b	(1869), 15c., no grill *	..	..	1 12 0
b	ditto, 9oc.	..	..	2 2 0
a	Victoria, Emblems, 2d. slate, thin 2 *	..	..	1 6 0
b	first issue, 3d. blue, perf., pair on entire	..	..	1 14 0
a	1/- blue, roulette	..	..	1 4 0
a	Too Late	..	..	1 15 0
b	Western Australia, 6d. black-bronze, roulette 3 sides	..	..	4 15 0
b	Wurtemberg, 18k. violet *	..	..	1 0 0
a-b	a pair	..	..	£2, £2 and 2 4 0
b	lots of two specimens, used on pieces with common values, fetched from £1 8s. od. to £2 2s. averaging for 13 lots..	..	..	1 11 0

Mr. W. HADLOW, December 2nd, 1895.

b	Labuan, 12c. carmine, CA. sideways, penmark	..	..	3 12 6
b	Queensland, 20/- pink, litho. *	..	..	1 10 0
b	Western Australia, 1/- brown, pair *	..	..	1 8 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., December 4th and 5th, 1895.

a	Antioquia, first issue, 5c. green, with 2 common ones, on entire	..	..	14 15 0
b	Barbados, 5/- rose	..	..	£1 14s. and 1 16 0
a	Bolivia, 10c. brown	..	..	1 10 0
a	50c. dull blue, on piece	..	..	5 5 0
a	another, brighter shade	..	..	3 10 0
b	British Columbia, 5c. red, perf 12½ *	..	..	1 14 0
b	10c. pink, ditto *	..	..	2 14 0
a	25c. yellow, ditto *	..	..	1 6 0
b	50c. violet, ditto *	..	..	1 12 0
b	1 dollar, green *	..	..	1 16 0
b	British Guiana, (1876), 4c. blue, perf. 12½	..	..	1 2 0
c	British Honduras, 3c. small on 3d. brown, perf. 12½	..	..	11 0 0
b	Buenos Ayres, 1 pesos, light blue *	..	..	1 10 0
a	another, dark blue *	..	..	1 11 0
b	Canada, half of large 6c. brown, on entire	..	..	2 4 0
b	one and a half small 2c. green, on entire	..	..	1 12 0
a	Ceylon, Imperf., 10d. orange *	..	..	1 14 0
b	ditto, 1/9 green *	..	..	3 3 0
b	ditto, 2/- blue *	..	..	10 0 0
a	Perf. Star, 8d. brown *	..	..	5 10 0
a	ditto, 8d. yellow-brown *	..	..	11 0 0
a	ditto, 9d. brown (rare shade) *	..	..	2 6 0
a	ditto, 1/9 green *	..	..	3 10 0
a	ditto, 2/- blue *	..	..	2 0 0
a	No Wmk., 5d. brown	..	..	1 1 0
b	ditto, 6d. brown *	..	..	1 16 0
a	2r. 50c. *	..	..	4 0 0
a	10c. on 36c. blue *	..	..	2 2 0
b	Denmark, 48sk. mauve and brown *	..	..	1 5 0
b	France, 1fr. vermilion *	..	..	7 10 0
a	Great Britain, I.R. Official, £1 green	..	..	3 7 6

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.		
		£	s.	d.
b	India, Service, 3a. green on blue	..	..	2 4 0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d. blue, medium	..	..	5 10 0
a	Greek Border, 2d. blue, pair on entire	..	..	2 10 0
b	Mexico, 3c. brown, no surcharge *	..	..	4 15 0
b	Naples, 50gr. lake	..	..	1 18 0
a	Nevis, 4d. rose on greyish..	..	..	1 18 0
b	New Brunswick, half a 6d. yellow, on entire..	..	..	3 5 0
a	6d. yellow	..	..	3 12 6
c	1/- violet, good colour but clipped..	..	..	8 5 0
a	Half of 10c. red. on entire	..	..	3 0 0
b	Newfoundland, half of 8d. carmine-red, on entire	..	..	4 5 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney View, 2d., plate 1	..	..	2 10 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown	..	..	1 7 0
a	half of 6d. light green, on entire	..	..	2 10 0
a	half of 6d. dark green, ditto	..	..	2 4 0
b	half of 10c. red, ditto	..	..	3 15 0
b	Oldenburg, ½gr. orange	..	..	4 5 0
b	Portuguese Indies, first issue, 40r. Prussian blue, on entire	..	..	2 10 0
b	Queensland (1879), 1d. yellow	..	..	5 5 0
a	St. Lucia, 1d. red, CC., perf. 12½	..	..	2 8 0
a	6d. green, star	..	..	2 0 0
b	St. Vincent, 6d. yellow-green, CA., pair	..	..	3 15 0
b	6d. green, CA., perf. 12	..	..	1 16 0
b	South Australia, 10d. blue and yellow, perf. x, roulette *	..	..	1 14 0
a	Switzerland, Zurich, 6r., vertical lines, on piece	..	..	1 14 0
b	Tasmania, 2d. green, star *	..	..	1 14 0
a	Tuscany, 1q. black on bluish, strip of 3 *	..	..	9 10 0
a	Uruguay (1859), 80c. golden-yellow, thin figures, pair *	..	..	2 10 0
b	Victoria, 6d. orange, beaded oval	..	..	4 7 0
b	5/- blue on yellow	..	..	4 17 6
a	Too Late	..	..	£1 3s., £1 8s. and 1 8 0
a	Virgin Islands, 1d. green (De La Rue)	..	..	1 5 0
a	1/- thin line, long "S" in "Islands"	..	..	4 1 0

Messrs. BUHL & Co., Limited, December 7th, 1895.

a	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf., pair *	..	..	£2 2s. 6d. and 2 4 0
a	1/- green, CC., perf. 12½ *	..	..	3 3 0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose *	..	..	4 0 0
b	British Guiana, (1862), 2c. yellow, grapes, broken "O" roulette, 2 sides	..	..	9 0 0
a	British Honduras, 2c. small on 6d. rose, perf. 12½ *	..	..	1 15 0
a	A pair *	..	..	3 5 0
b	A single, used	..	..	1 12 0
b	Great Britain, 10d. brown, octagonal *	..	..	1 12 0
b	£5 on bluish, heavy telegraph cancel	..	..	2 9 0
a	Hanover, 10gr. green *	..	..	3 16 0
a	Heligoland, 1sch. roulette, pair *	..	..	5 10 0
b	A single	..	..	1 11 0
c	¼sch. perf., error with green border, no perfs, at bottom	..	..	5 0 0
a	1¼sch. perf., pair	..	..	2 4 0
a	Italy (1851), 40c. red, block of 4 *	..	..	6 6 0
a	Luxemburg, 18gr., rose *	..	..	1 14 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney View, 3d. yellow-green (1855), 1d. deep orange, imperf., pair *	..	..	1 14 0
g b	1 c ditto 1/- brick-red, imperf., wmk. 8, block of 10	..	..	8 15 0
a	Roumania, 50b. with beard	..	..	1 5 0
a	St. Vincent, 1d. on half 6d. blue-green, pair *	..	..	12 0 0
b	1d. on 6d. green, strip of 3	..	..	9 0 0
b	4d. on 1/- vermilion *	..	..	15 10 0
b	Spain, (1852), 2 reales, red	..	..	12 0 0
b	(1853), 2 reales, red	..	..	5 10 0
a	Trinidad, 5/-, dull lake	..	..	1 10 0
b	United States (1868), 9oc. blue, with grill (1869), 9oc.	..	..	1 3 0
b	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, double lines *	..	..	2 0 0
b	Wurtemberg, 3kr. orange, with thread *	..	..	3 5 0

Mr. W. HADLOW, December 9th, 1895.

a	Bavaria, 12k. perf.	..	..	1 6 0
b	Canada, 4d. carmine, perf.	..	..	1 0 0
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. bright red	..	..	2 6 0
b	Dutch Indies, Unpaid Letter, 5c. yellow *	..	..	1 0 0
c	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA., one perf. gone	..	..	3 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.			
		£	s.	d.	
b	Naples, 50gr. lake	2	2	0	
	New South Wales, Sydney View, 2l grey-blue, plate 1	2	12	6	
	<i>Laureated</i> , 8d. orange	1	6	0	
a	South Australia, 1d. green, imperf. pair	2	0	0	
	another pair	1	12	0	
a	Switzerland, <i>Genève</i> , 5c. green, large eagle	1	2	0	
a	United States (1869) 24c.	1	3	0	
a	Wurtemberg, 18k. orange, roulette	1	5	0	
Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, December 10th & 11th, 1895.					
b	Antigua, 6d. green, imperf.	3	0	0	
a	1 - mauve, CA.	1	6	0	
b	another, used	1	7	0	
a	Barbados, 5/- rose	£1 14s. od., £2 os. od. and	2	4	0
a	British Columbia, 5c. rose, imperf.	10	0	0	
b	10c. blue, imperf.	1	15	0	
a	25c. orange, perf. 12½ block of 6	4	8	0	
a	a single	1	4	0	
a	British Guiana, (1856) 4c. crimson, (33x46 mm) on entire	21	0	0	
b	96c. drab	1	6	0	
b	British South Africa, £5, postally used pair	4	0	0	
b	a single ditto	1	16	0	
a	Brunswick, first issue, 35gr. vermilion	5	10	0	
i	Canada, 7½d. green	1	14	0	
b	10d. blue, £1 os. od., £1 2s. od. and	1	4	0	
b	1c. red-brown, on laid	1	14	0	
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. brick-red, pair	12	5	0	
b	ditto 1d. red	2	6	0	
b	Ceylon, Imperf., 1/9 green	3	7	6	
a	<i>Perf. Star</i> , 8d. brown	3	3	0	
a	ditto, 2/- blue	1	2	0	
b	2r. 50c., perf. 12½ x 14	3	7	6	
a	Dominica, 1/- lake, CA.	5	0	0	
a	France, 20c. black, strip of 7 (one tête-bêche) and a single on entire	3	0	0	
a	Gambia, 1/- green	1	16	0	
b	Great Britain, V.R., pair	22	0	0	
a	6d. lilac, small letters, hair lines, pair	2	8	0	
a	£5, fiscal cancel	2	2	0	
a	<i>I.R. Official</i> , 5 - rose	2	5	0	
b	Hamburg, 9sch. yellow, imperf.	3	0	0	
b	Hanover, 10gr. green, 2 copies	each	2	0	0
a	India, <i>Service</i> , 2a. green on long lilac	1	10	0	
a	Mauritius, <i>Post Paid</i> , 1d. on white, medium	6	0	0	
b	another, early but cut close	2	2	0	
a	<i>Small Fillet</i> , 2d., earliest, pair on piece	4	10	0	
a	<i>Greek Border</i> , 2d.	1	6	0	
b	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA.	3	7	6	
a	Nevis, 1d. vermilion, litho, sheet of 12	5	10	0	
b	4d. rose on greyish	3	0	0	
b	6d. grey-lilac on bluish	3	15	0	
b	another, used	1	3	0	
a	6d. bronze on greyish	3	15	0	
a	another, used	2	12	0	
b	6d. grey-lilac	1	8	0	
a	6d. green	9	0	0	
a	1 - green on greyish	2	16	0	
b	another	1	14	0	
b	1 - yellow-green	5	0	0	
a	1/- green, litho, sheet of 12	26	10	0	
b	Newfoundland, 2d. carmine-red	1	4	0	
b	2d. orange	1	6	0	
b	6d. carmine-red	2	2	0	
a	another, on entire	2	12	0	
a	New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d., plate 1, pair	4	15	0	
a	ditto, 1d., plate 2, pair, on entire	6	10	6	
b	ditto, 2d. blue, plate 1, vert. pair, on piece	2	2	0	
a	ditto, 2d. grey-blue, plate 3, pair	8	12	0	
a	ditto, 3d. green, pair on piece	6	5	0	
a	New Zealand, 2d. blue, no wmk., roulette	6	15	0	
b	1/- green, on blue	1	0	0	
b	Oldenburg, first issue, ½th rose	3	10	0	
b	ditto, ½gr. green	1	12	0	
b	second issue, ½gr. green	5	15	0	
a	ditto, 2gr. rose, on piece	1	18	0	
a	ditto, 3gr. yellow, ditto	2	0	0	
b	another	3	15	0	
a	strip of 5, used	9	9	0	
b	third issue, ½gr. green	1	14	0	
b	½gr. moss-green	2	12	6	
a	Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf.	2	5	0	

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.			
		£	s.	d.	
b	Queensland, 2d. blue, ditto	3	0	0	
a	St. Christopher, 1 - lilac, CA.	1	10	0	
b	St. Lucia, 4d. blue, star	2	12	0	
b	6d. green, ditto	2	4	0	
c	St. Vincent, 4d. red on half 6d. yellow-green, pair	2	11	0	
a	1d. red on half 6d. blue-green	3	17	0	
a	1d. black on 6d. yellow-green	2	15	0	
b	1d. drab, star	1	10	0	
b	4d. orange	1	11	0	
b	4d. dark blue, star	5	15	0	
a	4d. ultramarine, ditto	2	10	0	
b	4d. black on 1 - vermilion	11	10	0	
a	6d. yellow-green	3	14	0	
a	1/- blue	1	13	0	
b	1/- violet rose, comp. perf.	3	5	0	
a	5/- rose-red	14	14	0	
c	another, used, slight tear	11	5	0	
b	Sierra Leone, 6d. violet, imperf.	2	0	0	
b	Spain, (1865), 19c. brown and rose	2	8	0	
b	Switzerland, Neuchatel, 5c.	1	15	0	
a	<i>Vaud</i> , 5c.	2	17	6	
b	<i>Winterthur</i> , 2½r.	1	14	0	
a	<i>Zurich</i> , 6r. vert. lines, on piece	1	11	0	
a	another, hor. lines, ditto	1	11	0	
a	Tasmania, 1d. blue	3	5	0	
b	another	4	7	6	
b	4d. orange, block of 6	2	2	0	
b	1d. deep carmine, star	4	15	0	
a	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC.	3	5	0	
a	Trinidad, <i>Litho</i> , 1d. bright blue, fine impression	4	0	0	
a	ditto, 1d. dull blue, ditto, on entire	6	17	6	
a	ditto, 1d. pale blue, ditto	4	0	0	
b	ditto, 1d. blue, coarse, on entire	2	8	0	
a	6d. green, imperf., on piece	3	7	6	
b	6d. emerald, CC., perf. 12½	19s. and	1	0	0
a	5 - lake	£1 10s. od. and	1	16	0
b	Turks Islands, 4d. on 1d. red, the rare type	1	8	0	
a	United States, (1869), 24c.	19s., 19s. and	1	1	0
a	ditto, 90c.	2	8	0	
8b1c	Victoria, 2d. mauve, litho, block of 9	20	10	0	
a	Virgin Islands, 4d. on 1/-	2	0	0	
b	1 - single line	4	10	0	
b	Wurtemberg, 3k. orange, no thread	4	7	6	
b	6k. green, ditto	6	6	0	
b	9k. rose, ditto	1	12	0	
b	18k. blue, ditto	19s. and	1	0	0
b	18k. blue, with thread	3	17	6	
b	70k. violet	3	7	6	

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, December 12th & 13th, 1895.

a	Antioquia, first issue, 5c. green	11	10	0	
a	Barbados, 1d. on half of 5/-, 2 copies	each	4	0	0
b	5 - rose	4	15	0	
a	Bavaria, 12k. lilac, perf.	2	12	6	
a	1 mark, imperf.	2	17	6	
b	Boer Republic, £1 lilac on straw, postmark	1	0	0	
b	Bolivar, first issue, 10c. green, penmark	4	17	6	
a	Bremen, 58gr. green, pièce en scie	3	5	0	
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red	2	2	0	
b	ditto, 4d. blue	1	12	0	
a	Ceylon, 2r. 50c., perf. 12½ x 14	4	15	0	
b	Colombia (1862), 1 peso lilac on bluish	2	8	0	
a	Cyprus, 1/- green	2	0	0	

(To be continued.)

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.—Pages of Two Columns.

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Whole Page	per ins.	5	0	0	Whole Page	per ins.	4	0	0
Half Page	do.	2	15	0	Half Page	do.	3	5	0
Quarter Page	do.	1	10	0	Quarter Page	do.	1	5	0
One-Eighth Page	do.	0	15	0	One-Eighth Page	do.	0	12	6

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Half Column	do.	0	18	0	Half Column	do.	0	15	0
Quarter Column	do.	0	10	0	Quarter Column	do.	0	8	6
One Inch	do.	0	5	0	One Inch	do.	0	3	6

TERMS:—Strictly Cash with Order.

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Doings of Societies.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE third meeting of the Society was held in the rooms of Mr. T. S. Tillard, on Friday, November 29th, when eight members were present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Messrs. Hall and Makins were proposed for membership, the latter being present as a visitor. On the proposition of the Hon. Sec., seconded by the Hon. Treasurer, it was agreed to purchase an album for the Society's collection of forgeries. On the proposition of Mr. Peczluk, seconded by the Hon. Sec., it was agreed that any stamps taken from the exchange sheets and afterwards found to be wrongly described or forged, be returnable within one month.

A proposition to hold an Annual Dinner was favourably received, but the necessary arrangements were postponed until next term, when the question will be again brought forward.

A sheet of lithographed Labuans showing specimens genuinely used and those "cancelled to order" was shown by Mr. Wilson, and attracted considerable attention. A quantity of Forgeries were contributed by Messrs. Davis and Tillard. A vote of thanks to Mr. Tillard for the use of his rooms concluded the business.

The fourth meeting of the Society and last of the present term was held in the rooms of Mr. G. W. Bond, on Friday, Dec. 6th, when six members were present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. E. Newton was proposed for membership, and the election of Messrs. Hall and Makins was confirmed. The Hon. Secretary produced a balance sheet of the first Exchange Packet, showing that ten members contributed sheets of a total value of £36 6s. 1d., from which stamps were taken amounting to £12 3s. 9d.

The Forgery Book, to which upwards of 100 specimens have already been contributed, was handed round for inspection.

Various communications and papers which have been addressed to the Hon. Sec. were laid before the meeting, as a result of the publication of the Society's proceedings in the "S.C.F."

A vote of thanks to Mr. Bond for the use of his rooms concluded the business.

EDINBURGH AND LEITH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

AT a meeting of the above society held in Elder Hotel, on Monday, December 9th, 1895, Mr. A. Schuepel in the chair, the minutes of the last meeting were read, and four new members were elected. Mr. Hush read a paper on stamp collecting, which was listened to attentively by all present. Some remarks followed on "Specimen" Stamps, their value as collectable stamps were discussed. At the next meeting Mr. Siems will read a paper on the 5th thaler stamp of Oldenburg. L. HUSH, Secretary.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE third ordinary meeting of the session was held on Nov. 20th, with the Vice-President, Mr. R. Tyeth Stevens, in the chair. Lt.-Colonel Ely and the Rev. E. Bell were elected members. The subject of study for the evening was "The two dies of the one penny line engraved stamp of Great Britain." The Vice-President read extracts from the Earl of Kingston's paper, and explained his own views; he considered the lines that formed the nostril

was an unfailing test: in Die I. this consisted of a slightly curved stroke or dash, whereas in Die II. the curve was more pronounced and ended at the side nearest the ear with a distinct bend. The Hon. Sec. was of opinion that Die II. was chiefly to be distinguished by the shape of the ear and the lines of shading which crossed it, which are plainly visible; these lines in Die I. were engraved very faintly, and as a rule are only to be seen on early impressions except by very close examination.—ASHER LEVY, Hon. Sec., 190, Union Street, Plymouth.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President, W. DENISON ROEBUCK, F.R.S.

AT the meeting held Saturday, 16th November, Mr. Wm. Beckwith (an ex-president) in the chair, there was a moderate attendance of members. Mr. George Smithson, of Hull, was elected a member. Mr. John H. Thackrah then gave an interesting description of the Stamps of Antigua, illustrated by his own and other members' collections, and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks at the close.

At the meeting held Monday, December 2nd, 1895, the President occupied the chair, and there was a fair gathering of members.

A vote of sympathy with the Rev. T. S. Fleming on his recent accident was passed, and of thanks to Mr. J. F. C. Sieber for contributions to the Black Book, and to Mr. Hilckes for the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. Mr. T. K. Skipwith showed the 1/- Queensland on Beer Duty paper, and new issues of Transvaal and Brazil, and Mr. Herbert Hepworth also showed novelties.

Mr. Eugene Egly then read a most valuable and interesting paper on the Occupation Stamps issued during and after the Franco-German War, entering into the subject in considerable detail, and illustrating it by a fine series of examples.—T. KERSHAW SKIPWITH, 13, Victoria Road; JOHN H. THACKRAH, 51, St. Michael's Road, Headington, Leeds, Hon. Secs.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

AT the ordinary meeting held on Nov. 26th, at the Grand Hotel. Mr. D. Ostara read a paper on the Postage Stamps of Spain from 1850 to 1856. The first stamps were issued in 1850, bearing the head of Queen Isabella the Second, with crown. The designs were first engraved on copper, and printed by a lithographic process on various papers, in five values. In 1851, a second issue appeared, showing the head of Queen Isabella with pearl diadem, and consisting of six values. Of the two reales of this issue, only 1,432 stamps were sold; consequently this is a very rare stamp. Another change was made in 1852, when five values were issued, with head of Queen with band, printed in epergne on various papers. In 1853 saw a fourth issue, with design slightly changed. During this year stamps were issued for the payment of local postage in Madrid, and bearing the arms of the city. These were superseded by the new issue of 1854, consisting of six values, the design being altered to the royal coat of arms, surmounted with a crown. The next issue was in use from 1855 to 1860, and bore the Queen's head within a circle of pearls. On February 15th, 1856, prepayment of letters was made compulsory, it having been optional previously. The early stamps of Spain were printed very carelessly, and have been largely forged for the purpose of sale to collectors. One forgery by a Leipzig printer is a work of art. It has been produced by a process of photo-engraving, and it is difficult for an expert to distinguish it from the original.

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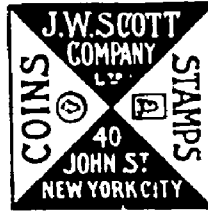
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2½d. blue, .. 7	1 6	4 0
3d. rose, .. 19	10 6	17 9
4d. orange, .. 10	3 3	5 6
6d. lilac, .. 8	4 9	9 4
6d. grey, .. 8	5 3	8 11
1/- green, .. 11	10 9	17 6

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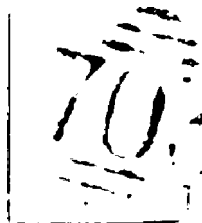
Approval to:— G. PADRO,

Cuba Villa, Forest Drive, Leytonstone.

Ref. Milkes, Ltd.

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PLEASE find on this space a One Penny Victoria stamp, presented gratis to postal subscribers only.





The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.



Published every alternate Saturday at 64, Cheapside, E.C.

No. 8.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

The "Universal" Series

.... OF

(PATENT
APPLIED FOR)

POSTAGE STAMP ALBUMS.

Vol. I. . . *The Postal and Telegraph Adhesives of*

EDITED BY

HARRY HILCKES . . . GREAT BRITAIN.

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READY MIDDLE OF JANUARY, 1895.

HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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OF THE STAMPS OF GREAT BRITAIN,

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LONDON, N.

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Beg to announce that their next

AUCTION SALE

WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE

16TH JANUARY, 1895,

AT THE

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WHEN A

VERY FINE COLLECTION WILL BE SOLD.

Lots include: Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf, finest possible copy.
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Trinidad, 1/-, No wmk. unused. Nevis, 4d. litho, unused.
Newfoundland, 1/- vermilion. Tuscany, 3 lire.

And a quantity of other Stamps, Rare and Unique Stamps.

A few more Lots will be received for inclusion up to
January 2nd, 1895.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The Auctioneers desire to state that under NO
CIRCUMSTANCES do they purchase, or cause to be
purchased for them, any lots at their own Sales, nor do
they receive COMMISSIONS.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEPARTMENTS.

A fine stock of Rare and Medium Stamps. Great Britain, Colonies,
and U. S. A. a Speciality. Books of these Countries sent on
approval on receipt of satisfactory references.

COLLECTORS' LISTS OF WANTS INVITED.

PERIODICAL SALES BY AUCTION

— OF —

RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

ORIGINATED IN THIS COUNTRY BY

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,

At the ST. MARTIN'S, TOWN HALL,

CHARING CROSS, S.W.

DATES OF SALE, 1895.

January 30 and 31
February 20, 21 and 22
March 7, 8 and 28

April 18 and 19th
May 7 and 8, and 23 and 24
June 13.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, In announcing
their Future Dates, beg to draw attention to the
following important Sales:—

January 30 & 31.—An exceptionally FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION,
comprising a superb lot of Rarities, mostly unused, and including
Great Britain, the V.R., Tuscany, 2 soldi, 60 crazie. and 3 lire,
Thurn and Taxis, 1st issues, unused, Wurtemberg, 1st issue, un-
used, Naples, arms, unused, Switzerland, the double Geneva,
Basle, unused; Spain, 3 cuartos and 2 reales of 1851, 1852, and
1853, all unused, and superb, Moldavia, 1st issue, 108p., unused,
27p. and 54p., Ceylon, 4d. rose, imperf., unused (grand specimen),
with gum, Cape of Good Hope, both the errors, also a fine pair,
the error 1d. blue attached to the 4d. lightly postmarked, Reunion,
1st issue, Sandwich Islands, 1st issue, 5c., Newfoundland, ver-
milion, set complete, New Brunswick, 3d., 6d. and 1/-, unused
immaculate specimens, Nova Scotia, ditto, United States, a fine
lot, Canada, 12d. black, British Guiana, 1st issue, 4 cents yellow,
12c. blue, 1862 provisionals, 1c., 2c., and 4c., including a fine pair
of the 2c., West Indies, practically complete, unused, Buenos
Ayres, complete 4 and 5 pesos, unused, Columbia, 1862 issue,
complete, unused, New South Wales, very fine, including 1d.
Sydney View, plate I., on bluish, unused, and 2d. blue ditto;
South Australia, 1/- yellow, rouletted, unused, Western Australia,
1st issue, 2d., cut square, unused, 1/-, rouletted, unused, and a
superb 6d. bronze, and many others.

February 20, 21 & 22.—VERY FINE PRIVATE COLLECTIONS, including
the following Rarities:—Great Britain, all unused, the V.R.,
octagonal issue, 10d. brown (block of 4 and 2 singles), 6d. (pair
and single), 1/- (pair and 3 singles), 4d. rose, medium garter, 1½d.
red, imperf., £5, strip of 3, £1, wmk. anchor "Specimen," 5/-
plate 4, superb, plates of the early 6d. and 1/-, I.R. Officials, 10/- Gvt.
Parcels, &c.; German States, fine, including Bremen, Oldenburg
complete, Lubeck used, Hamburg, St. Christopher 6d. olive-
brown, used, Barbados, 1d. on half 5/-, used on piece of original,
and 5/ rose unused, Monserrat, 4d. blue, CA., Nevis, including
first issue 1/-, unused, and 6d. green, used, British Colombia, 10c.
and 1c. dollar, Nova Scotia, 1/-, superb, New Brunswick, 1/-,
superb, and the Connell, United States, 1869 issue complete,
Departmentals nearly complete, rare Sandwich Islands and used
Samoans, Monaco, 5 franc., unused, Basle, Neufchatel, Vaud,
Winterthur, Zurich, &c., Spain, fine, Natal, 1st issue, fine, 1/-,
rare surcharge, Mauritius, including early 1d.'s, 2 blue, error
Penoe, provl. 4d., &c., Labuan, first issue complete, India, 2s.
green and Service Stamps, Ceylon, 8d., 9d., 1/9 and 2/-, imperf.,
wmk. star, perf., 8d. brown, unused, and the mustard, New
Zealand 1d. and 1/6 on blue, and many others.

CATALOGUES may be had of

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper,

35, Old Jewry, London, E.C.



THE STAMP

COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

CONDUCTED BY

Published every alternate Saturday.

HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

No. 8.—Vol. 1.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	65
Stamps of South America	65
Philately at Home	66
Philatelic Memories, by D. A. Vindin	67
City of London Philatelic Club	67
Between Ourselves	68
Auction Sales	69
Our Prize Competition	70
Secret Marks of the Stamps of Hamburg	71
Philately Abroad	71
Our Forum	71
Answers to Correspondents	72

Philatelic Personalities.

PROBABLY the name of Mount Brown is unknown to many thousands of the rising generation of philatelists; yet this man did more than any other to give the first impetus to stamp collecting in this country. His "Catalogue"—a queer little pamphlet it seems now-a-days—was the first serious attempt in this country to list all known postage stamps.

Mr. MOUNT BROWN's first catalogue, published by Mr. Passmore, of Cheapside, in 1862, gave particulars of about 1200 varieties. In the next edition a hundred were added, and by December, 1862, the diligent compiler gave the philatelic world—a very small world then—a catalogue of 1700 varieties. In a fourth edition 2400 stamps were listed, but by this time Mr. Mount Brown's correspondence assumed appalling proportions, and he had seriously to consider the question which he should abandon—stamps, or his regular business. In the end he abandoned stamps, and philately has ever been the poorer by that decision.

Is the current *Philatelic Record* an excellent portrait of "the first philatelic cataloguer" is given. For more than twenty-five years he has had nothing to do with stamps, but we should never forget how indefatigably he, as it were, rocked the cradle of philately. It was a bright idea that prompted the *Philatelic Record* to invite Mr. Mount Brown to occupy a niche in its gallery of philatelic celebrities.

By the time this meets the eye of the reader, Mr. Charles J. Phillips, of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, will have arrived in New York City with a little matter of £40,000 worth of stamps in his trunk. Our only Phillips expects to "unload" at a considerable rate in his passage through the States.

MR. TOMASSO COELHO, our friend of the South American paper, published in this issue, has severed partnership with Mr. Antonio Fernando; but will still trade under the name of Coelho and Fernando at 136, Fenchurch Street, E.C.

The Stamps of South America.

(A Paper read by Mr. Tomasso Coelho before the City of London Philatelic Club.)

MY subject is a very vast one. South America constitutes a very large piece of the world. To start with Dutch Guiana, or, to give it its proper name, Surinam, the stamps of that country are perhaps not very interesting, but they are, in their way, works of art. It is well known that Surinam stuck to the Netherlands through thick and thin, and in 1803 they changed the head of the old King to that of the present girl-Queen, Wilhelmina. Another small country, though famous enough for its sugar, rum, gold, and especially for one of the rarest of all known rarities, is British Guiana. The stamps of British Guiana are famous all over the world. Collectors can always find something in them of interest. The history of the great rarity, the 2c. rose circular, is particularly interesting. In the year 1850 the postage for a certain radius round the city was four cents, but the delivery was by fits and starts; so the merchants combined together and asked the then Postmaster General to have business letters delivered forthwith on payment of a certain fee. The Postmaster then had the 2c. circular printed on rose paper—or pink, as some style it—to meet this emergency, but the system was soon abolished, so that very few of the stamps were used. But I have seen a collection in British Guiana, belonging to a wealthy gentleman, containing at least four of these specimens, and no money can tempt him to sell.

Now let us turn to a country which is famous for its gold, coffee, and—revolutions, viz., Venezuela. The United States of Venezuela is the name now given to this Union of fourteen States. The stamps of Venezuela are very historical. The Venezuelans have stuck loyally to the effigy of Bolivar. Bolivar did a lot of good for this Republic. It was a good day for us Venezuelans when we threw off the yoke of Spain. Under the regime of General Joaquin Crespo, the Republic has made wonderful strides. Crespo is the right man in the right place. May he have a long term again, I say. I shall always speak with pride of Venezuela, as I am proud of my home and native land. I will now turn to the Granadene Republic. This country has given us as many specimens of stamps as one can imagine, but there is a lot to be learnt from the Granadene Republic. There is a whole history in its various issues. Those who specialize can always find a quantity of oddities, errors, &c.

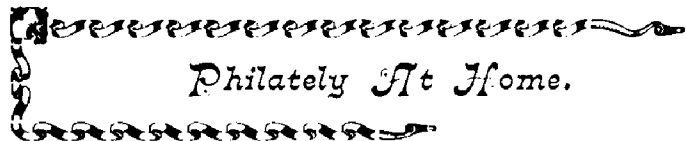
Ecuador is a very small country in comparison with the other South American States. There is not much to be gained here in our collections—no very great rarities. Peru provides a nice set of stamps, and a great quantity of surcharges. Then we come to Chili, which is the best equipped Government in South America. Chili is the only Republic that has stuck to Columbus. All the issues bear the effigy of the discoverer of America. The issues of Chili are not numerous, but these stamps are neatness itself.

Now, gentlemen, imagine we are on an ocean greyhound, steaming round the Horn and coming up the South Atlantic. We stop at Buenos Ayres. What do we get here?—a few

good rarities, and then a shoal of issues of the Argentine Government. Nothing very historical in this list of stamps! So now we proceed on our voyage and go on to Montevideo, or Uruguay. Here we find many gems to interest the specialist. One can always pick up something that is historical and of great rarity, such as official, inverteds, etc. By studying these stamps the philatelist will be repaid four-fold.

Paraguay has not given us much to study, but still, one can learn something from this insignificant country.

Gentlemen, I think I have touched on the most principal States in South America, and can assure the specialist that he could not find a more interesting set of countries for philatelic study.



Philately At Home.

THE TAPLING BRITISH GUIANAS.

NOW on view in the King's Library at the British Museum are the stamps of the West Indies and South America. In the latter section the British Guianas of the lamented "English Ferrary" are easily first in point of general interest. Every philatelist ought to take a peep at these while they are yet on view.

THE INTERNATIONAL STAMP IS COMING.

SAYS a writer in the *Echo*:—"The German Government is about to propose an international stamp. It will contain the names of all the countries in which it is recognised. If the plan is found to be practicable, it is to be hoped that it will be generally adopted, for it would be a boon to people engaged in foreign correspondence."

THE LADIES IN PHILATELY.

MESSRS. Puttick & Simpson, whose second stamp auction was held on December 19th, inform us that two thirds of all the lots offered at that sale were the properties of ladies! This seems to endorse the general belief that philately is a hobby much beloved by the weaker sex.

IS A PRETTY WORD NEEDED?

THE *City Press*, a paper which has frequent references to philately, approves our "newly coined designation for the rubbish issued by money-making countries and postmasters." "Gumbug (says our contemporary) is not a pretty word, but it will serve the purpose, until some ingenious person can hit upon a better." But is a pretty word needed for such an ugly article as the "made-for-collectors" stamp?

THE DE-OXIDATION OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

IN response to the request of many readers we shall briefly describe the systems employed respectively by the Earl of Kingston and Mr. W. T. Willett in removing oxidation from postage stamps. Lord Kingston's medium, as he explained in the paper he read before the London Philatelic Society on October 19th last, is a weak solution of nitrate of mercury. "To apply it," writes Lord Kingston "use a very small sable hair brush (in quill). Camel's hair is too soft. Rub the oxidized surface of the stamp with the liquid until all traces of discolouration have vanished—which will be effected in a few seconds—then plunge the stamp into warm water immediately, and allow to soak for three or four hours, changing the water three or four times. This method is suitable only for used stamps. To renovate unused stamps, either singly or in blocks, and at the same time preserve the gum uninjured, they should, after the oxidation has been removed, be placed on clean blotting-paper, and carefully brushed over with plain water—using a medium sized camel's hair brush—taking special care that the moisture does not penetrate beneath the stamp."

Mr. W. T. Willett believes in peroxide of hydrogen, and this is generally regarded as the more commendable medium. Peroxide of hydrogen, as its chemical symbol (H_2O_2) shows, is water with an extra atom of oxygen added. The

chemical action that takes place when the peroxide of hydrogen is applied to the stamps is simply this: the extra atom of oxygen in the oxidised stamp combines with the extra atom of oxygen in the peroxide of hydrogen, and is given off as ozone (O_3), leaving the ink in its pristine condition, and also water (H_2O), which in course of time evaporates. Says Mr. Willett in his article on the subject in the *London Philatelist*.—"The best strength to use is 10 vols. The bottle should be kept carefully corked, else the oxygen will rapidly evaporate, and cause the material to become useless. Beware also of exposing it to too great a heat; this will cause an explosion, owing to the oxygen being too rapidly expelled. Apply to the face of the stamp with a camel's hair brush, and allow to dry."

A SOCIETY FOR LONDON STAMP DEALERS.

WE read the following in Messrs. Theodor Buhl & Co.'s *Stamp News* for December:—"We hear it rumoured that a society of London stamp dealers, having for its main object the creation of more kindly and charitable feelings in the dealer's breasts (or may we say hearts), is on the tapis. So mote it be."

If the society is to be kept in the hands of the Philatelic Protection Association Officials, it will undoubtedly meet with as much success as that famous body. We should have thought one failure was sufficient.

NYASSALAND STAMPS A BOGUS ISSUE.

As the result of communications which have passed between ourselves and various Lisbon friends, there seems to be no shadow of doubt that the issue of Nyassaland stamps, brought into existence by the Nyassa Company, and retailed to the philatelic world by a committee-member of the Philatelic Protection Association, is an absolutely bogus one. The stamps are not only unauthorised by the Portuguese Government, but have not, and never will have, any postal value whatever. We have already classed them as "gumbugs," but it now becomes necessary to find some still less creditable classification for these worthless scraps of gummed paper. Our information from the Portuguese capital is to the effect that the issue of stamps for the Nyassa territory has at last been sanctioned by the sovereign power, but this authorised issue, it is expressly stipulated, must be prepared in Lisbon by Portuguese workers. Possibly this patriotic policy will also lead to the appointment of a Portuguese stamp-dealer as sole philatelic *concessionaire*, in which case, Mr. W. Brown, of Salisbury, will in our opinion be "well rid of bad rubbish."

A NEW ENGLISH VARIETY.

WE have a new English variety to chronicle—plate 13 of the sixpenny in light buff. We have seen an undoubted copy.

PHILATELY UP TO DATE.

WHEN Messrs. Stanley Gibbons do anything, they do it well. The "Philatelic Diary, 1895," is an acceptable blend of the philatelic acumen of Mr. C. J. Phillips, and the manufacturing cunning of Messrs. Marcus Ward & Co. It is a little book that any philatelist may carry with pride. In addition to the "Diary" proper there are well contrived pockets for stamps, a pencil, and a perforation gauge. In the "Diary" itself are to be found such valuable data as a directory of philatelic societies, a reliable list of currencies, a brief glossary of technical terms, and what is virtually a philatelic gazetteer of the principal stamp-issuing countries of the world. This last feature is alone worth the half-crown charged for the whole work.



To Our Contemporaries.

WE desire to exchange regularly with every philatelic journal at home or abroad. Will all those editors who have not yet done so kindly send *two* copies of their publications, and we shall be pleased to reciprocate.

Philatelic Memories.

BY D. A. VINDIN.

(continued from page 53)



SOME time after the last mentioned period, I entered the office of Buckley, Blunsom & Co., as office boy—my delight at being able to handle stamps all day was indeed great—I have a clear recollection of my feelings which closely approached real happiness.

After two years, or rather eighteen months, Edward Buckley left Sydney, and as I happened to be the only one acquainted with its working, I found myself shortly after proprietor of the business, and so dated my stamp dealing experiences from March, 1882.

In 1882, there were several good collections in New South Wales; Mr. Fred Hagen, my late partner, had by far the best, as, even at that time, he was an experienced and keen philatelist. Messrs. E. D. E. Van Weenen, Russell, Soutar and Gosling, also had good representative lots.

Mr. Russell was very proud of his old Swiss, which were thought to be complete, our idea of completeness at that time being bounded by the spaces allowed in the Imperial Album. These stamps had been obtained in exchange from a collector or dealer at Geneva. I well recollect seeing the exchange sheets sent from Sydney, containing "Sydney Views" at from 2/6 to 5/- each, 1d. "Laureated" at 6d., 2d. at 2/- dozen; 6d. at 3/6, 8d. at 10/-, and other things at proportionate prices. Imagine the disgust of this collector, when a few years later, he discovered that the whole of the Swiss were forgeries! the only consolation being that Mr. Russell, as it was an exchange transaction, had "stuck on" the prices about a hundred per cent. above the then current ruling prices in Sydney.

I have never quite been able to understand how stamp values in many cases are arrived at; twelve years ago in Australia, the 10d. state stamp of Victoria, always found a ready sale at about 10/-. "Views," and other stamps being then one fourth or one fifth their present prices, yet this stamp, which, from experience, I know to be one of the scarcest stamps of Australia, is to day counted to be worth about 15/-. I know no one able to show twenty copies.

In 1883, I bought from a Sydney collector a large lot of some hundreds of "Sydney Views" at an "all round" price of either 1/- or 1/6. Several of these were unused. I had the greatest difficulty in disposing of them at 2/- each.

With a few exceptions, dealers, twelve years ago, could not have been making much money, the number of stamps which would realize upwards of two pounds, I daresay did not exceed thirty, low prices were the rule and without a very big turnover, a fair income was not possible—although profits certainly ruled higher and a twenty per cent. return would have been scoffed at.

In 1883, if I remember aright, Mr. Fred Hagen left Sydney for New Caledonia. He was then the leading Sydney collector and his departure had quite a depressing effect upon local philately.

My old friend Mr. David H. Hill, of Melbourne, is, I believe, the oldest collector in Australia. His present collection of Victoria's it would be hard to beat, but in my early days he confined himself to unused stamps, and all my best things went to him. We agreed that he should buy all unused "Sydney Views" at an average of £1 each for approved copies and for several years I sent him any that came into my hands.

For some years the stamp business in Australia was almost completely in the hands of Mr. Charles B. Donne, of Melbourne, and myself. We have always been close "chums" and I consider him the truest friend I have; latterly Mr. Donne has devoted more attention to his bookselling business than to stamps, but he is certainly one of the successful dealers,

having made a small fortune out of stamps, most of which, however, Mr. Donne, like almost every other Australian, had invested in Banks and property, either now locked up or producing no return, so, after all stamps would have been better.

I fear the good Editors, as well as readers, of the FORTNIGHTLY must be growing tired of my gossip, especially as there is necessarily a strong vein of apparent egotism running through it; so I must fain conclude my present batch of recollections, which, to me anyway, are mostly happy ones.

City of London Philatelic Club.

INSUFFICIENT knowledge of human nature was displayed by the Committee when they called a meeting for the Thursday following Christmas Day. Only four members turned up and they soon began to "feel lonesome"; and after waiting some little time in vain they unanimously decided to adjourn to more congenial quarters.

At the last Committee meeting it was decided that, as it was necessary to curtail expenses as much as possible in order to accumulate funds for the renting of suitable club rooms, it would be necessary to get a cheaper official organ. THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY was selected as the most suitable, and this paper will in future be supplied by post to every member of the club, the publishers having quoted a considerably reduced rate. It may be mentioned here that all members of the club who have already paid their subscriptions will be refunded the amount of the unexpired portion of their subscription.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

THE November packet has come to hand, and all accounts were sent out on the 1st of January. Will members kindly remit the amounts owing to the packet per return. The October packet is not yet fully settled for. Two somewhat heavy amounts are still outstanding. Very satisfactory sales are realised by the packets, but the Superintendent, Mr. Joselin, cannot possibly remit the amounts of the sales if they are not received from the purchasers. Everything is done to make the packet a success, but this one point the members must attend to themselves.

The January packet has been delayed a few days, owing to the holidays having prevented members making up their sheets in time. It will, however, have gone on its travels by the time this issue of the "S.C.F." is in print.

The Exchange Superintendent is anxious that all the members should be assisted by the Exchange Department. Therefore, if it meets with the approval of the country members, he will be pleased to receive from them approval sheets of good clean stamps which he undertakes to exhibit in the Club Room for three successive weeks, and then return same with cash for those sold, less postage, and 5/- for the funds of the club. Every care will be taken of the sheets so forwarded.

HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

THE Hon. Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the *Monthly Journal*, the *Stamp News*, the *Philatelic Record*, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, *Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, *Stamp Collectors' Journal*, *Monthly Post* (for December, November is not received), the *Million*, *Philatelic Advertiser*, the *Auction Record*, the *World's Exchange*; from the Continent, *L'Union Postale*; from United States, the *Post Office*; the *Philatelic Journal of America* from Messrs. C. H. Meckel, St. Louis, and Part I. of their Standard Catalogue of the World.

Mr. C. Forbes also thanks Messrs. H. A. McMillan & Co. for the *Philatelic Journal of America*, vols 10 and 11, and the *Monthly Journal*, vols 3 and 4.

Any member having a spare copy of Nos. 26, 27, 29 and 32 of the *Monthly Journal*, will greatly oblige by sending it to the Librarian, at 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings every Thursday.

All communications relating to club matters should be addressed to the Secretary, 64, Cheapside, E.C.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JANUARY 12, 1895.

.. Between Ourselves ..

We have to announce that we have purchased from the Philatelic News Agency, of 57, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., the copyright of the publication known as the *Stamp Collector's Monthly*, the said

An Amalgamation. publication being now merged into and incorporated with the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY. It is an open secret that the "S.C.M." for the past twelve months has been the property of Mr. Percy C. Bishop, one of the Editors of this paper, who was thus placed in a somewhat anomalous position. To avoid in some measure a division of interest, Dr. Bryant was asked to take the editorship of Mr. Bishop's paper, and did so in September last. At the close of the year, however, it was thought desirable—as the interests of all the parties were practically identical—to amalgamate the "S.C.M." and the "S.C.F." This has now been done, and all paid-up subscriptions to the former paper will be filled by the publishers of the "S.C.F." To this arrangement no serious objection, we think, will be raised by the "S.C.M." subscribers, for they will practically be in the same position as they were before. The men who run the "S.C.F." are in a great measure those who have been at the back of the popular, but unfortunate, "S.C.M." Dr. George Isaac Bryant, the Editor of the now defunct *Monthly*, has consented to add his name to our list of regular contributors, and various other gentlemen who contributed to the "S.C.M.'s" columns will from time to time write for these pages. The "S.C.M." was a bright little paper with a five years' record of good and useful work at its back; and we regret its death as sincerely as will many of its oldest friends. But, if it is impossible to keep it alive, we can at least perpetuate its best and brightest features, and this we certainly intend to do. "The 'S.C.M.' is dead; long live the 'S.C.F.'!"

We beg to draw the special attention of our readers to the terms of our new competition as announced in another column. If it should prove successful it will benefit both our readers and ourselves. The larger our subscription list grows the more we can do to increase the features of the paper, and by this time we hope it is pretty patent to everyone that it is our desire to make the "S.C.F." the best philatelic paper issued in the English language. We cannot, however, do this without the co-operation of our readers, and to this end we have adopted the new prize scheme. If everyone of our subscribers will endeavour to fill one list, we shall be able to increase our paper permanently to twelve pages. We give a

double number now and then, but to permanently increase the "S.C.F." to twelve pages means a very considerable addition to our printer's bill.

* * *

POSTCARDS poured in by every post, within a few hours of the issue of our last number, and the majority decidedly favour the continuance of our auction reports.

Result Nearly every one who voted added a few special words of appreciation of our crusade against mal-
Poll. practice. We have, therefore, decided to continue the auction article, and with our next number will issue a special supplement of four pages, bringing all sales up to date, and thenceforward every number will contain the sales which took place during the fortnight previous to going to Press.

We have addressed a letter to all the auctioneers asking them to send us special marked catalogues indicating where-ever a stamp is not properly sold, and we shall only report the sales of those auctioneers who take the trouble to send us these particulars. It must obviously be in their interest to have their sales regularly reported, but we absolutely refuse to do so unless we feel sure the prices we record are really realised at the sale. We trust that the adoption of this plan will be of the greatest possible use to that vast majority of collectors who never attend an auction, and whose only source of information is the philatelic press.

One very prominent member of the London Society writes us admitting the "rigging" we complain of, but adding that prices realised were quite intelligible to those who see the stamps. We certainly admit this, but what about the thousands who do *not* see the stamps? It is precisely for these thousands that we publish our records. Another member of the London Society also admits our grievance, but states that in the case of large collections prices realised are generally bona fide. Here we beg to differ: what prevents the owner of a large collection, tying a string, so to speak, to any stamp he has a special fancy for?

* * *

THE Philatelic Protection Association, like the little boy in the story, is having "a good, hard think." Perhaps some attempt at a reply to the exposure published **The P.P.A.'s** in our Christmas Number will be the ultimate "Think" result. Meantime, we have given in "Our Forum" an interesting batch of correspondence, the special significance of which is that we have the sympathy of all sections of the philatelic public in thus exposing, and seeking to annihilate, the scamy side of the stamp world.

* * *

THERE is one grade lower even than the "gumbug," and that is the bogus stamp—the stamp which is made for any other purpose than the legitimate one of paying postage. There is strong suspicion that the labels recently credited to Abyssinia must be placed in this category; and we have just received definite information that the issue of Nyassaland stamps, introduced to the philatelic public through the agency of Mr. William Brown, of Salisbury, is absolutely bogus so far as paying postage goes. The Nyassa Company had not received permission from the Portuguese Government to issue stamps, and though this permission has since been accorded, such conditions are imposed as will inevitably render the whole of the labels sold by Mr. Brown valueless as "postage stamps." Doubtless our Salisbury confrère was deceived by a too enterprising company; doubtless also he will refund to his many customers their money they have paid him for these bogus stamps. The company, in all probability, can be compelled to make good Mr. Brown's loss, but that is the look-out of the latter, and must not stand in the way of our Salisbury friend making the necessary *amende* to all those who have purchased the Nyassaland labels! When the affair is satisfactorily settled, Mr. Brown will be well advised in forsaking for ever the harmful unnecessary "gumbug," and sticking to such legitimate wares as, say, Dutch and Straits Settlements.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

Class a—Superb condition, if unused with gum, (mint state), if used, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post-marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, November 22 and 23, 1894.

Continued from page 63

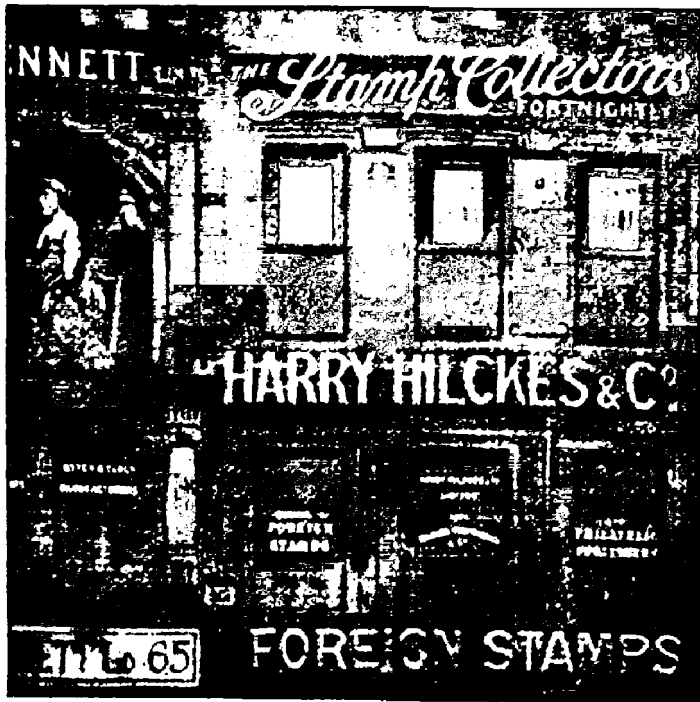
CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
b	Oldenburg, Colour on white, 3grs.	..	..	0 13 0
b	do., ½grs. green, unused	..	..	0 18 0
a	do., ½grs. unused, error, reversed g instead of O in "Oldenburg"	..	..	1 1 0
a	do., ½grs. unused	..	..	1 8 0
b	do., ½grs. unused, with gum	..	..	0 9 0
b	do., 2grs.	..	..	0 12 0
b	do., ½grs. unused, no gum	..	..	1 2 0
c	Portugal, First issue, 100r. lilac	..	..	0 17 0
b	Portuguese Indies (1871), First issue, pairs of 10 reis, black on entire, £2 6s., and	..	..	2 8 0
b	do., do., three copies of 20 reis on entires, each	..	..	4 0 0
b	Queensland, Three copies of 6d. emerald green, un-watermarked	..	..	0 11 0
b	Saxony, First issue, 3 pfennig	..	..	3 10 0
b	Schleswig, First issue, 1sch. blue, unused but no gum	..	..	0 14 0
a	Sierra Leone, 5/- on 1/- green, penstroked	..	..	1 0 0
a	South Australia, 2½d. on 4d. green, small perf., entire unused sheet of 120	..	..	1 18 0
a	do., large perf., do. 120	..	..	3 3 0
c	First issue, pair of 1d. deep green	..	..	1 4 0
c	do., 1/- imperf.	..	..	1 1 0
a	2½d. on 4d. green, small perf., unused block of 14	..	..	0 10 0
a	Tasmania, ½d. on 1d., entire sheet of 120 unused	..	..	1 0 0
a	2½d. on 9d. light blue do. 60 do.	..	..	1 1 0
a	1d. vermilion, local print, block of 96 unused, showing two errors	..	..	1 4 0
b	1d. oblique perforation unused	..	..	1 6 0
c	Turkey, 25 piastres, brick red	..	..	0 10 0
c	Tuscany, 60 crazie, slightly cut	..	..	6 0 0
b	United States (1869), 24c., with centre misplaced	..	..	0 14 0
b	(1869), 90c.	..	..	1 14 0
b	Columbus issue, \$5 used	..	..	1 2 0
a	Victoria, 8d. red brown on pink, watermark 10, unused	..	..	0 14 0
a	do., strip of three unused, wmk V and Crown	..	..	0 15 0
c	5/- blue on yellow, perfs. clipped	..	..	2 14 0
b	Western Australia, 2d. vermilion, rouletted, unused	..	..	1 8 0
c	Wurtemberg, 18kr. with silk thread	..	..	0 12 0
b	70kr. unused, no gum	..	..	1 5 0
b	Another copy, with less margin	..	..	1 0 0

The London Philatelic Co.'s Sale, November 28, 1894.

c	Baden, 3kr. rose, perf. 13½, unused	..	..	1 6 0
a	Bahamas, 4d. rose, no watermark, perf. 12	..	..	0 16 0
b	do. do. perf. 13.	..	..	0 14 0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose, unused pair	..	..	5 0 0
c	4d. brick-red, imperforate horizontally	..	..	0 15 0
c	Bavaria, 12kr. lilac, perforated, very fine, but slightly cut	..	..	0 14 0
b	Belgium (1866-67), 5c. brown, imperforate	..	..	0 7 0
a	British Columbia, 10c. perf. 12½, unused	..	..	3 10 0
b	50c. do. do.	..	..	1 18 0
a	British Guiana (1863), 24c. green, surcharged official	..	..	1 6 0
b	(1862), 1c. crossed ovals, used	..	..	4 0 0
c	(1862), 2c. ovals, slightly damaged	..	..	4 0 0
b	(1860), 2c. orange, thick paper, perf. 12, unused	..	..	1 4 0
a	(1860), 4c. blue on yellowish paper, perf. 10, block of 10, unused	..	..	1 5 0
b	British Honduras, 1/- grey	..	..	2 0 0
a	Canada, 7½d. green, superb	..	..	3 3 0
a	10d. blue	..	..	1 5 0
c	½d. imperforate on horizontally ribbed paper	..	..	0 15 0
c	7½d. green, cut at bottom, otherwise fine	..	..	1 12 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
b	Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 4d., deep blue	..	..	1 5 0
b	6d. lilac, rouletted	..	..	0 8 0
a	Ceylon, 6d., imperforate, light brown	..	..	0 14 0
a	9d., imperforate, violet brown on original	..	..	3 5 0
c	9d., perforated, olive brown, watermark star	..	..	0 12 0
c	4d., imperforate, fine, but margins cut into on one side	..	..	6 10 0
a	8d., imperforate, yellow brown, superb	..	..	22 0 0
a	Gambia, 1/- green, unused	..	..	1 0 0
b	Gold Coast, ½d., olive, unused, no gum	..	..	0 12 0
c	Great Britain, 2/-, red-brown	..	..	1 0 0
b	1d., rose, on white, watermark large crown, perf. 16, unused pair, with original gum, (one stamp slightly stained)	..	..	9 15 0
b	2d., blue, die 1, perf. 16, large crown, unused, with part of the original gum	..	..	18 0 0
b	£1, watermark orbs on bleaté	..	..	3 5 0
b	6d., octagonal, block of 6, unused, with gum	..	..	25 0 0
a	10/-, watermark Maltese cross	..	..	0 15 0
c	Hanover, 10gr., fine specimen, but slight tear	..	..	1 17 0
b	Another, with Lubeck postmark	..	..	1 18 0
c	Another, cut very close	..	..	0 18 0
a	Hong Kong, 96c., yellow-brown	..	..	0 16 0
b	Ionian Islands (2d.), red, used	..	..	0 12 0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid 2d., first state of plate, but small margins	..	..	5 0 0
a	Britannia issue, 1/- green	..	..	0 16 0
b	Mexico, Chalco Local, used	..	..	1 18 0
a	Monaco, 5fcs., first issue, unused	..	..	1 14 0
a	Montserrat, half of 1d., perf. 12, surcharged ½d., on entire	..	..	1 5 0
c	4d. blue, watermark CA., £1 4s., and	..	..	1 12 0
a	Naples, 50 grani lake	..	..	2 2 0
c	½ tornese "Cross," unused, but cracked across	..	..	2 2 0
a	Nevis, 4d. rose on grey, unused	..	..	3 3 0
b	Another, no gum	..	..	3 0 0
b	1/- green, do.	..	..	2 12 6
c	4d. rose, used	..	..	2 0 0
a	1/-, perf. 15, bottle-green	..	..	1 10 0
b	6d., brown shade, unused, no gum	..	..	2 15 0
b	4d., orange, do.	..	..	1 4 0
b	1/-, perf. 13, two copies fetched £1 6s., and	..	..	1 3 0
a	6d., lithographed, unused	..	..	7 0 0
b	6d., grey, perf. 15, unused	..	..	2 5 0
b	Two used copies fetched 12 6, and	..	..	1 7 6
b	1d. on blue, used, imperforate horizontally	..	..	1 0 0
c	6d., grey, perf. 13, 2 perfs. missing	..	..	1 5 0
a	6d., green, watermark CA., unused	..	..	7 0 0
a	New Brunswick, half of 6d., surcharged 3d. in circle	..	..	3 8 0
b	6d. unused	..	..	3 0 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. carmine-vermilion	..	..	2 0 0
c	4d. do. do. very fine, but small margins	..	..	2 12 0
b	6d. do. do. do. but slightly damaged	..	..	4 0 0
a	8d. do. do., unused	..	..	0 14 0
a	8d. do. do., used	..	..	1 10 0
b	2d. orange-vermilion, large margins	..	..	1 0 0
b	6d. do.	..	..	1 12 0
b	Another, not quite so fine	..	..	1 8 0
b	Another, on watermarked paper	..	..	1 8 0
b	4½ orange-vermilion, large margin	..	..	2 15 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., double print, heavy postmark	..	..	0 16 0
a	do. 2d. pearl in fan	..	..	0 15 0
a	do. 2d., plate 3, early state	..	..	1 1 0
b	do. 3d.	..	..	0 13 0
b	Laureated 1d. on blue, unused, no gum	..	..	1 16 0
b	do. do. error "no leaves"	..	..	0 11 0
c	do. do. do. rare shade	..	..	1 12 0
c	New Zealand, 1d. on blue paper	..	..	1 10 0
a	6d. dark brown, wmk. star, serrated perforation	..	..	1 14 0
c	6d., pelure paper, imperforate, unused, with small pin-hole	..	..	0 15 0
a	1d. orange, watermark star, imperforate	..	..	0 10 0
a	2d. orange do. do.	..	..	0 15 0
b	1/-, pelure paper, rouletted	..	..	0 12 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d., unused, very fine, but no gum	..	..	1 15 0
b	6d. yellow-green	..	..	1 5 0
a	Oldenburg, First issue ½gr.	..	..	1 2 0
b	Black on colour, 2gr., unused	..	..	0 15 0
b	do. 3gr., two copies, each fetched	..	..	0 15 0
a	do. 3gr. (broken 3), unused	..	..	2 2 0

(To be continued).



[T was stated in our first number that the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY would be guaranteed for at least twelve numbers. It was my opinion that by that time the paper, if it was worth its salt, would pay its way. On looking into the accounts at the close of the past year, however, I have been gratified by the discovery that what with advertisements, paid up subscriptions, counter sales, etc., there has not been a single penny lost upon our enterprise. Not only is the "S.C.F." on a paying basis, but also the small loss upon the first few numbers has been wiped away. This record is, I believe, absolutely unparalleled in philatelic journalism, it being openly admitted by the publishers of many first class journals that their publications do not pay and never would!

THE FUTURE of the "S.C.F." is therefore absolutely assured. As we progress we shall constantly add to the features of the paper, giving our supporters as much value for money as we possibly can. Those who have carefully followed us from the beginning will have noticed that almost every issue has contained some new feature, and none of these have been abandoned.

OUR WHOLESALE LIST, so far as its publication in the "S.C.F." is concerned, will be discontinued forthwith. It has been put to me that it is obviously unfair to publish such a list in a paper published solely for collectors; and I cannot but admit the force of the argument. The list will be issued in pamphlet form in a few weeks' time and posted gratuitously to every dealer known to us.

FOR THE NEW ENGLISH ALBUM orders are pouring in by every post; but owing to the very careful supervision I have to exercise over the final proof-sheets there has been a further delay in publication, which I regret all the more from the fact that I had hoped to get the album out in time for Christmas. It will now be pushed forward with all possible despatch, and, as I refuse to put anything on the market which is not in every way up to the mark, I trust that those who have favoured me with orders will grant me their indulgence. Pioneer works, which have absolutely to be compiled from the first page to the last, require far more care and work than second and third editions. I wish to give the criticising crank as little scope as possible.

WE WANT AN ASSISTANT in our approval department. He must be young, a thorough philatelist, and, above all, a person of tried integrity. For a long time I have hesitated about taking an assistant, but the work of our approval department has grown to such an extent that I find it impossible to attend to every order as quickly as I should like. Our staff of young lady clerks are valuable in their way, but

they have not sufficient philatelic knowledge to be of any great help in the scientific branch of the approval business. A liberal salary, I may add, will be paid to a suitable applicant for this post.

HARRY HILCKES.

Our New Prize Competition.

OUR NEW PRIZE SCHEME.

ALL PRIZES!

NO BLANKS!!

WE promised our readers a new prize competition, and here it is. We wish to extend the circulation of this paper by every means in our power, our ultimate aim being to make it read by every English-speaking or English-reading philatelist. We are making rapid strides towards the attainment of this aim, but we wish to quicken the pace. Our readers can help us in this, and to induce them to do so offer acceptable gifts to those readers who obtain new subscribers for the "S.C.F."

THE SPECIAL FEATURE OF THE COMPETITION

is that *everyone gets a prize*, provided he secures not less than six subscribers, which should be an easy matter to most readers. The following rules and general hints should be carefully perused by intending competitors:

(1) The subscriptions obtained must be each for a period of six months twelve numbers, post free 1s. 6d.—and in every case payment must be in advance.

(2) Competitors need not wait until the time for the termination of competition to send in their lists, but may send in as soon as they get six subscribers, enclosing at the same time 9s. cash in payment thereof.

(3) The competition is by no means restricted to those who subscribed to the S.C.F. by post. The reader who buys his copy at his newsagents has an equal chance with the postal subscriber.

(4) The subscriptions obtained must, of course, be those of *new* subscribers—that is of persons whose names have not yet figured in our subscription ledgers.

Now for the prizes, which will be awarded on the following scale:—All competitors obtaining six new subscribers (at 1s. 6d. for twelve numbers, post free), will be credited with

A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION

(twenty-six numbers) to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. We may mention here that in the case of a competitor being already a subscriber, his prize subscription will of course date forward from the expiration of his existing subscription.

All competitors obtaining twenty-four new subscribers on the same basis, will receive a prize of Five Shillings cash, in addition to a year's free postal subscription to the S.C.F.

Finally, the competitor who books the greatest number of subscriptions within a period of eight weeks from this date will receive a

PRIZE OF £2 25. CASH,

in addition to a prize of 5s. cash for every set of twenty-four subscribers comprised in his grand total. The winner of this top prize will also be credited with a year's subscription on his own account.

Now we think everything is clear; and we hope our readers will do their level best to double or treble our subscription list. The advantage ultimately will be theirs, for the better the support we get the better the paper we shall produce.

It will be our endeavour to *make the rewards proportionate all through*. Thus a competitor who secures more than six new names, but fails to reach the twenty-four will be rewarded proportionately.

All those who do not quite understand the particulars here given are invited to communicate with the Competition Editor, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Chancery Lane, London, E.C. To save time, querists are advised to enclose a stamped envelope, in which a prompt reply per post will be sent.

The Secret Marks of the Stamps of Hamburg.

Translated from the Dresden *Philatelist* with special permission by HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 62.)

P (e) Under the top part of the letter "P" in the word Postmarke there appears a dot. (Fig. 11).

Fig. 11.

(f) The foot line on the left side of letter "T" in POSTMARKE ends in a dot. (Fig. 12).

T

Fig. 12.

2 Schilling red, perf. and imperf.

H (a) At the top left corner of the H in Hamburg there is a small dot. (Fig. 13).

Fig. 13.

(b) Two very curious elongations are added to the "u" in Hamburg. (Fig. 14).

U

Fig. 14.

l (c) Under the top part of the first "l" in schilling a small dot can be traced. (Fig. 15).

Fig. 15.

(d) Just above the letters "ng" in the word schilling there is a thin line, and in the earliest impressions at least a very small dot can be seen just over the right to the "n." (Fig. 16).

ng

Fig. 16.

i (e) Under the top part and over the foot of the letter "i" in schilling two separate dots are to be seen which, however, are not very plain in the later impressions. (Fig. 17).

Fig. 17.

3 Schilling blue, perf. and imperf.

(a) Similar to the previous stamp, there is a dot under the top part of the "H" in Hamburg, only somewhat lower down. (Fig. 18).

H

Fig. 18.

(To be continued.)

Philately Abroad.

JEYPORE "RAJ" STAMPS.

NUMEROUS applications have been made to the British Resident at Jeypore, by persons wishing to invest in Jeypore State Stamps. These cannot be complied with and for the benefit of philatelists, Colonel Prideaux (the Jeypore Resident) gives some facts regarding these stamps. In December, 1890, an official letter was received from the Director-General of the Post Office, India, stating that on certain specimens of the Jeypore stamps which he had seen, the words "Raj Service" were surcharged, and enquiring why this was done, as the Postal Department had never sanctioned the use of Service Stamps, by Jeypore officials. On further enquiry being made from the Durbar, it was ascertained that Colonel S. S. Jacob C.E.E., superintending engineer of the Jeypore State, about four years previously had introduced a rubber stamp in his office, with which he surcharged the stamps used for the Durbar, to distinguish

them from private ones. Owing to the Postal Authorities objection to use these overprinted stamps, the practice was stopped, and consequently no stamps with the surcharge "Raj Service," were used after October 30th, 1890. These stamps were never used postally, and any unused labels with this surcharge that may be seen in philatelic lists are either forgeries or stolen from the engineer's office. The same thing appears to have been done in some of the District Boards in British India, the surcharge this time being "On D.B.S.," but the practice is no longer allowed.

A PHILATELIC SETTLEMENT ON THE CONGO.

It is stated in the *Vossische Zeitung*, that the Christian village on the Congo, the means for founding which were gained in Brussels by the collection of old postage stamps, is now in actual existence. From all parts of the world more than forty million old stamps were collected, and sold for a large sum. The Congo State presented the Society with 400 hectares of land in the south of Lusambo, on the banks of the Congo. The village is called "Saint Trudon," (why not Saint Philatelia?) and the colonization has begun. Negro boys and girls who were educated by the missionaries are now united in marriage, and have been settled in the Christian village, each pair receiving a separate house. The place is well-centred; it lies within a wide margin of cultivated land and there is plenty of original gum about, too!

PHILATELY AND THE KING BUSINESS.

Our hobby is constantly justifying its own existence on the score of geographical instruction alone. Who on earth would have thought there were two Trinidads? It seems that the newly issued postage stamps (?) for the Principality of Trinidad do not refer to any part of the British Colony of that name. This other Trinidad, we find, is an island off the coast of Brazil—a country which until recently was supposed to own the island, though, as it was entirely uninhabited its ownership was not, perhaps, a matter of any great moment. As to the person describing himself as James L., he is now stated by the London Correspondent of the *Scotsman* to be the husband of the only daughter of an American millionaire. It is a delightful story, interesting to a far wider circle than philatelists, for it may be that once the fashion is set uninhabited islands may be run up to a premium in the market, and American millionaires become the founders of new Royal lines which, in a few generations, may easily outnumber the effete monarchies of Europe.

NEWS FROM THE REAL TRINIDAD.

We have it on excellent authority that the 6d. bronze green, Trinidad, of 1883, will be obsolete from the 15th instant.



* Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

THE EXPOSURE OF THE "P.P.A."

DEAR SIR,—I have read your article on the above subject with a great amount of interest.

You show great courage in exposing to your readers the rotten state of the Association. I am very well aware of the fact that you are little liked in certain high and mighty quarters, but these gentlemen have now suddenly been disturbed in their perpetual sleep. The present officials of the P.P.A. have known how to draw on their old reputation, since here, in the Fatherland, this institution is looked upon as old and venerable—and mighty respectable. You may therefore picture my disappointment when I attended, last spring, one of their meetings and found that German Societies, which these gentlemen always accuse of being too much beer and too little stamps, do very much more useful work.

I only joined the P.P.A. as I thought our Society might work in co-operation with them. They are, however, far too pig-headed, and do not even consider it worth their while to look at our publications.

Of course, I shall sever my connection with the P.P.A. at the end of the year. I shall not again pay £2 zs. for nothing. Circulars I have not received since June.

What you state about the discourtesy of the P.P.A. Officials is perfectly correct. I have written twice to them giving them information about forgeries; however, they did not take the slightest notice of my communication, nor did I receive any acknowledgment.

Anyhow, you should receive full acknowledgment that you had the courage to show the philatelic world how little there is really in that mighty association.

Societies will do well to look at their money twice before handing it over to the funds of such a useless body.

See that your Christmas Number is well circulated; it will make you friends among some philatelists everywhere.

Wishing you a Happy New Year,

Yours sincerely,

[We withhold the name, and even the initials, of the writer of the above letter; for if we gave his initial they alone would reveal his identity, and it may be that he does not wish to be known as the writer of the letter. It need only be added that he is one of the foremost philatelists in Germany, and that his name is known through the length and breadth of the Continent.—Eds.]

GENTLEMEN,—I am surprised, on reading your No. 7, to find that no reply is forthcoming from the Philatelic Protection Association, a fact which argues that your charges are irreputable. I have long been dissatisfied with the conduct of the P.P.A.; but your "thunderbolt" is indeed an eye-opener. Wishing your lively little journal all possible success.

Leeds, Jan. 3rd, 1895.

Sincerely,

W. H. B.

DEAR SIR,—The Christmas Number of STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY to hand. It is tip-top, and I am delighted with "A Peep behind the Scenes" of the P.P.A. Again wishing you success.

Yours faithfully,

H. L.

Huddersfield, December 17th, 1894.

DEAR SIR,—If half what you say in respect to the "P.P.A." can be proved, then it is more than time that some reconstruction of this body took place. May I suggest that you give us your idea of how the Association should be worked to give the best results. Having "condemned" the existing structure, is it not your place to design a new edifice?

Respectfully yours,

A "P.P.A." MEMBER.

Tunbridge Wells, Jan. 7th, 1895.

Answers to Correspondents.

* * * We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

G.E.S. (Widnes).—The 1/- English of 1884 (not 1887, as erroneously put), with forged surcharge, "Government Parcels," was never issued by the Post Office, nor even printed by the contractors to the Government. When the 6d. and 9d. green were so surcharged, sufficient stock of 1/-

salmon was then in hand to last till March 1890, when the current 1/- was issued with the surcharge.

Secretary (Rochdale Society).—Your report was accidentally over-looked. You will find it in to-day's issue. We must apologise for the omission.

A.M. (Nottingham).—You will see your wish realised in this number. We ourselves prefer the peroxide of hydrogen mode and have used it for the last 18 months without a single failure. Many thanks for your kind remarks regarding the tendency of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

D. N. N. (Canonbury).—We returned your stamps with the Catalogue of Reprints. (a) One of the 6d. current English has been put in water, hence the difference of tint. (b) The Tobago 1d. carmine, with ornaments in place of the word postage, is a Fiscal stamp, which was never issued for postal purposes; it is therefore not included in any catalogue. Many thanks for your encouraging remarks. We have been overwhelmed with kind letters, and nearly every voting card returned to us, and we received hundreds, had some appreciating note, proving that the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY filled a real want.

J.S. (Stafford).—You mean no doubt the 1d. red, with letters in top corners. The first plate registered is No. 69, which was not used at all, and of the following plate No. 70, only a few sheets were struck off, which were however not deemed a success. These sheets are said to be burned, but of course it is quite likely that single copies may turn up any time. Plate 71 was the first plate from which properly issued sheets were struck off, and with the exception of Nos. 75, 77, 126, 128, all plates up to 225 were registered and used in the ordinary way.

ANSWERS TO VOTING CARDS.

J.P. (Seamills).—The balance of result may be good; but how shall we strike the balance?

J.P.W. —We quite know the auction report is a good feature, but to make it really valuable we must have a sound basis to go upon, and this we are striving to attain.

G.H.R. (Wragby).—We will endeavour to keep the reports more up-to-date, but when we have nine consecutive days devoted to auctions this is obviously difficult.

A.J.B. (Jersey).—You wish only genuine prices reported! Quite so! So do we. But which are the genuine ones?

W.D.R. (Leeds).—See answer to A.J.B.

A.B. (Ashbourne).—We trust that in the end we shall attain our ideal, and be able to record genuine prices only.

F.J.M. (London, E.C.).—Very glad to hear you agree with us that the sales of the auctioneer-dealer-broker cannot be a reliable guide to values.

W.W.B. —You are quite right; if a collection is sold *in toto* the prices realised are fairly reliable, but we should say these form hardly 25% of the lots sold by auction.

W.W.B. —There is much force in what you say re limit of prices to be recorded, but is not 30/- rather high? We think that on the whole the majority of collectors take far greater interest in the prices of those stamps which are likely to be within the limits of their purse, and look at the high priced ones as something very nice to have, but outside their own resources.

J.H.A. —Many thanks for kind remarks. "It" will come in time, you may be sure.

H.W. (Acton).—Thanks for your wishes. We reciprocate them most heartily.

F. J. B. (Manchester).—Very glad to hear that you think our Auction reports one of the features. We mean them to be, but then we must feel sure that they are true to fact and not faked.

TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

A very large number of most interesting letters have to be held over for want of space. Will those of our readers who do not find a reply in this number have patience for another fortnight, when we will endeavour to satisfy everyone.—Eds.

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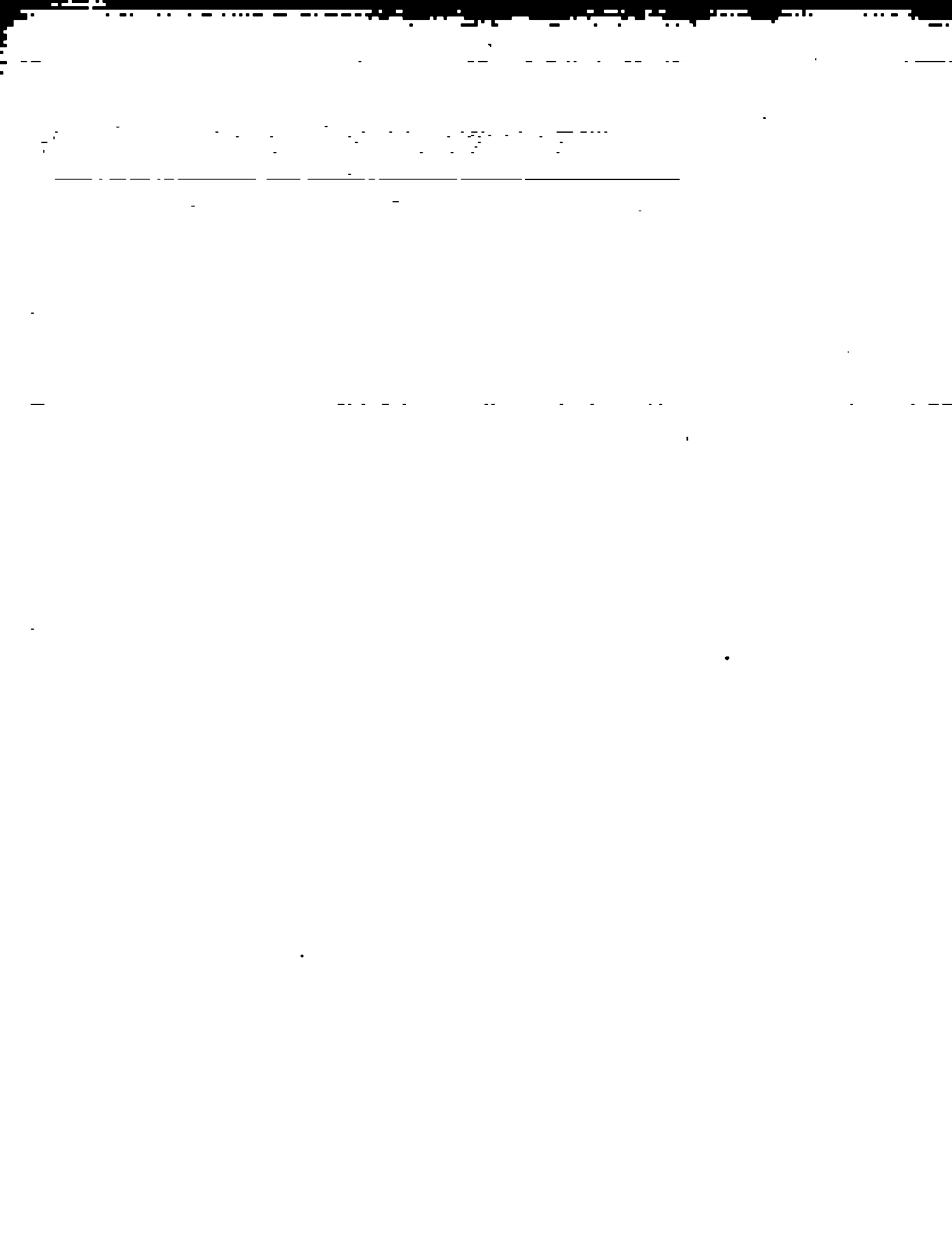
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Doings of Societies.

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BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

NORTHAMPTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

No reports to hand on going to press.

ROCHDALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

AT the meeting held on November 28th, 1894, an interesting and instructive paper on the stamps of Gibraltar was read by the Hon. Treasurer, to whom a vote of thanks was unanimously passed.

The feature of the succeeding meeting, that held on December, 12th, was a paper on the stamps of the German Empire read by the Vice President, E. Heginbotham, B.A., Hon. Secretary, Woodfield, Rochdale.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE usual meeting was held on Wednesday, December 19th, 1894, at the Central Cafe, High Street. There was a good attendance of members to hear a highly interesting paper by Herr Louis Abenheimer on "The Stamps of Baden." The paper, which throughout bore traces of wide knowledge and careful preparation, dealt briefly with the history and geographical features of the State, and then exhaustively discussed matters of interest to stamp collectors. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Herr Abenheimer, after which the usual business of the Society was proceeded with.

LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

AT the fourth meeting of the season, held on November 16th, at Effingham House, Arundel Street, W.C., Mr. Bacon showed a dangerous new forgery of the $\frac{1}{2}$ tornese Naples stamp (Arms) sent by Mr. Gramham Taylor, of Trinidad. Mr. G. J. Hynes presented the Society with facsimile copies of two settings of the 4 anna stamp of the 1st issue of India, printed from the dies upon the original water-marked paper. Mr. G. T. Napier tendered his resignation.

Mr. Bacon, in referring to the death of Mr. Gilbert Harrison, expatiated upon the great services to philately of the deceased gentleman, and finally a sympathetic resolution was moved by Mr. Bacon, seconded by Mr. Castle, and carried unanimously.

Captain G. Chichester was elected a member of the Society.

Mr. Nankivell called attention to certain dangerous forgeries of 6d. (blue on colour) surcharged stamps of the Transvaal.

Mr. M. P. Castle then read a paper entitled "Short Notes on Western Australian Stamps," in which he called attention to a number of varieties in the 3d. stamps of the 1854 issue, and to the varieties of perforations in the 1861 issue.

The fifth meeting was held at headquarters on November 30th. Amongst the correspondence read was a letter from Miss Harrison in reply to the vote of condolence with the family of the late Mr. Gilbert Harrison, and a letter from Mr. G. B. T. Nicholls, informing the meeting of the death of Mr. E. H. Watts, junr.

Mr. E. W. Reeves and Mr. McHenry England resigned membership.

Mr. G. J. Hynes exhibited a portion of his fine collection of Indian stamps.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE monthly meeting of this Society was held on Friday, the 4th January, 1895, the President, Oliver Frith, Esq., occupying the chair. There was a large number of members, and, after the formal business of the Society had been disposed of, the chairman opened the subject appointed for debate, viz.: "Specialism v. General Collecting." He dealt with the question in a most lucid and interesting manner, and imparted an immense amount of valuable information to the members present. A discussion then took place in which several of the members joined. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, the 5th of February.—W. H. SCOTT, Hon. Sec.

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No. 9.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1895.

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No. 9.—Vol. 1.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	73
The Artistic Side of Philately	73
Philately at Home	74
Nyassaland Stamps—Bogus	74
City of London Philatelic Club	75
Between Ourselves	76
"Specimen on English Stamps"	77
Secret Marks of Hamburg	77
Our Black List	78
Philately Abroad	78
Auction Fallacy	79
Our Forum	80
Answers to Correspondents	80

Philatelic Personalities.

UP to quite lately Mr. Alfred de Rothschild was an enthusiastic stamp-collector, who spent large sums annually on his albums, and was always ready to buy a rare or curious stamp at the vendor's price. Quite recently, however, he became tired of this pursuit, and sold his fine collection.

* * *

THE \$2 and \$5 stamps of the new American set are specially interesting, as introducing to our philatelic portrait gallery two faces previously unrepresented therein. James Madison, whose head adorns the \$2 stamp, was the fourth President of the United States. John Marshall, the hero of the new five-dollar label, rose to the distinguished position of Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, and held that post from 1801 to 1835.

* * *

BOTH Madison and Marshall were born in Virginia, and prior to their selection for the fulfilment of the above positions of honour, had both acted as Secretaries of State, and held other distinguished offices during their official career. The name of Madison, like that of so many other distinguished Americans, is perpetuated in the street nomenclature of New York.

* * *

MR. DAWSON A. VINDIN is forsaking Fleet Street for some far-away corner of Western Australia. What takes him thither he is "not at liberty to say," but there is a beaming buoyancy about him that suggests something big—perhaps a gold mine in the Coolgardie district.

* * *

It cannot be stamps, for Mr. Vindin has been heard to declare very positively that he has "done with philately." Whatever it may be that calls our friend and whilom contributor back to the Antipodes, we wish him the best of everything he wishes for himself.

The Artistic Side of Philately.

BY ARTHUR MARSHALL, A.R.I.B.A.

AN artist once remarked to me that "he was surprised at my indulging in such a hobby as stamp collecting, there being nothing whatever artistic about it"; a remark which I had little difficulty in disproving. To my mind, one of the greatest charms of Philately lies in the fact that it abounds in art, design, and colour, in infinite variety. Few hobbies or pursuits of leisure can furnish an effect more pleasing than the exhibition of a few pages of well-selected copies of the early stamps of some of our own colonies.

Amongst the most important qualities which a stamp should possess are:—1st, that it should suggest distinctly and at sight its face value; 2nd, it should embody some distinctive symbol or feature or well-defined lettering by which its nationality should be recognized; and, 3rd, it should be executed in as intelligible and pleasing a manner as possible.

Of late years the timid and stereotyped character of the colour and design of our colonial stamps have served the more strongly to enhance the brilliancy of the design and execution of the older issues. Fortunately, since the production of the late U.S. Columbus set, some impetus has been given to better work in this direction; nevertheless, the great majority of modern stamps indicate a lamentable degeneration, both in design and colour, and even the more ambitious attempts in the new sets of Liberia, Borneo and the Congo, though in themselves exquisitely engraved miniatures of object or landscape, miss the mark in the requisite qualities of a good stamp. The confined area of a postage stamp should not have crammed into it miniature scenes, cataracts, remote objects, etc.; something simple and at once more effective is required. In my opinion, the finest and most artistic set of stamps for which our albums find place is that of Sicily. There is a solid respectability about the simplicity and strength of its design and fine etching-like execution, and yet it is a distinctly business-like stamp. The beauty and vigour of its colours and the very charming and appropriate design of the cancellation render these stamps almost equally attractive when used. There is certainly nothing finer to my mind in the whole range of postage stamps than the unused set of Sicily, from which one cannot but turn sadly to the effeminate and flimsy nature of more recent productions.

Perhaps next in point of beauty and character come some of our early colonial stamps, as for instance, those of St. Vincent—a joy and a pleasure to look upon. That daintily executed head on a brilliant ground of engine turning, printed in most charming shades and colours, will always make our pages of the stamps of St. Vincent among the most attractive in our books, and it is gratifying to note that the officials are alive to the beauty of their design, and are producing the current issue on the same lines.

Providing the design is well engraved, the most vivid colours will always prove the most successful. So small an object as a stamp needs some self-assertion and requires to be brightly clothed. The pale ochres, lilacs, greys and other delicate half-tones of the surface printed sets current in our

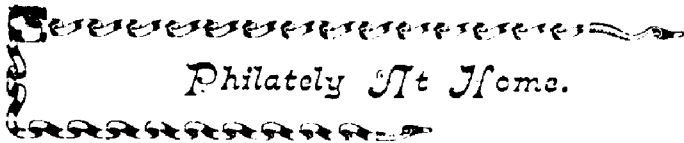
colonies become sadly marred even by the faintest obliteration; whilst the vermilion, ultramarines, blue greens, carmines and indigos of the early colonial stamps will invariably hold their own.

The European countries were never so prolific in the production of artistic stamps, and if we except the beautiful first and second issues of Holland and Belgium and the head issue of Saxony, there is nothing of a very high order to be found amongst them. There are, however, one or two issues which, if not of a very artistic nature, are nevertheless unique and extremely interesting as illustrating their purpose perhaps more perfectly than those of most countries; and in naming the first issue of Bavaria and Thurn and Taxis, the reader will recognize in them unique monuments of a type of postage stamp which it would have been well to have developed, for certain it is that neither Bavaria nor Germany have produced any stamp to equal them since.

The United States have ever been consistent in their designs and colours, and the engraving of the stamps has always been of the highest order. The beautiful Journal and Departmental Stamps and the two commemorative sets of 1869 and 1893 will always prove popular in the eyes of collectors, but in point of appropriateness and excellence of design, in my opinion there has been no stamp issued by the United States to compare with the 30 cent., 1869 issue, a stamp of exceptional brilliance.

Amongst other stamps to which it is always a pleasure to turn, are the brilliant head issues of Nova Scotia, Brazil and the Sandwich Isles. These all fulfil to a very perfect degree the requirements of a satisfactory stamp.

It would be impossible to more than refer to a few of the stamps which lay claim to some artistic merit, or to cull further evidence of the artistic side of Philately in a short article of this description; but even if our hobby were vulnerable on other sides, one could at least urge—and that with a measure of success—that the most artistic mind might follow it with both pleasure and profit to himself. It would not be difficult to show to the unbiassed mind, on a study of the brilliant and artistic stamps to which I have referred, and which are but a tithe of the enormous number of beautiful things to be found in every good collection, that Philately has a mission in art, which hitherto has been ignored, but which cannot fail before long to obtain its legitimate share of recognition.



ART IN THE AUCTION CATALOGUE.

THE up-to-date Auction Catalogue is a thing of beauty and a joy for ever. Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper's catalogue of their 52nd sale, to be held on January 30th, and following days, is embellished with two handsome plates of stamp illustrations. The sale should prove worthy of its catalogue, containing as it does several very noteworthy lots.

THE NYASSALAND "CUMPAPS."

WE have nothing, so far, to add to the remarks made in our last issue concerning the Nyassaland "stamps" so largely advertised by Mr. William Brown, of Salisbury. Letters of enquiry, addressed to the London Secretary of the Nyassa Company, have evoked the laconic answer that "there is no answer," which is ambiguous enough to be worthy of Mr. Gladstone. We greatly regret, however, that the current issue of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* contains a further announcement of "special bargains" in Nyassalands and Abyssinians. Such "special bargains" as these are dear at any price.

THE CELEBRATED "CARDIFF PENNY."

MR. WALTER SCOTT, of Cardiff, writes to the *Western Mail* as the "discoverer" of the "Cardiff 1d. stamp" sold for £5 at a recent auction in London. He says that in January, 1870, a few sheets of postage stamps which had been accidentally issued imperforate were found at the Post-

office then located in Church-street, and knives and scissors had to be used to separate the stamps for sale. Mr. Scott says he was not then alive to the future philatelic value of these stamps, but he, at any rate, purchased three dozen, though now he is regretting that he subsequently parted with them in exchange for other stamps.

Nyassaland Stamps—Bogus.

THE MATTER FINALLY SETTLED BY AN AUTHORITATIVE LETTER FROM A CONSULAR OFFICIAL.

(Since writing our paragraph in "*Philately at Home*," on the subject of Nyassaland, we have received the following important and authoritative document. We give it as received:—Eds.)

Messrs. Harry Hekes & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

Dear Sirs,—I was much pleased to receive your kind favor of the 15th instant, and only wish all philatelic publishers would ask for information; this would prevent the printing of a great deal of nonsense.

The article in the *S.C.F.* is perfectly correct. It is my private opinion that the Nyassa Company must have known that the stamps were useless, as I am sure that not one single specimen was sent to Nyassaland. By now you will doubtless have seen an article by me in the *Dresden Philatelist* on this subject. At least, I sent one to Schong, and I suppose he will print it. Still, I will repeat the points of the case in a few words.

According to the Charter of the Company de Mozambique, the Government of Portugal was to abstain from collecting all kinds of taxes during 25 years on the territories belonging to this Company. Further, in the Royal Decree of the 2nd June, 1892, sub. article 9, it is stated:—

The Government shall allow the privileged Companies to use their own stamps, under the condition that these stamps are to be subject to the rules fixed in that same decree for the stamps for the Portuguese Colonies. These conditions are: (art. 1) That the values, colors, etc., of the stamps are to be the same as those for Portugal, and (art. 2) any deviation from this rule only, to be allowed by special sanction of the Ministry of Colonies and Marine.

Accordingly the Company de Mozambique asked for special stamps, and got permission to have them made. The design (the two elephants) was made in England, and the die sunk and the stamps printed here. While this was being done the Company used the ordinary stamps surcharged with its name.

Now the Company de Nyassa, which has the same charter as the Mozambique Company dispensed with these preliminaries, and had the stamps printed in London, in other colours for the same values (except the 50rs.)

When this was known here, the papers began to make a noise. The Government, as usual, took no notice. Only some time afterwards the Nyassa Company asked permission to have stamps made, which was granted under the usual conditions, i.e. that they were to be made here, etc. The decree granting this says, that the colours, values, etc., are not to be changed without the Government's sanction. This clause does not exist in the Company de Mozambique's grant, showing that the Government here knew it, and did approve, the provisional stamps that Company had made.

Up to the end of last week the Royal Mint had received no order for stamps for this Company. It is not sufficient that the stamps be printed here, as one would think from the article in the *S.C.F.*; they must be made by the Government Mint.

I have no time to give you further details, but I believe you will find all you require in the *Dresden Philatelist*, or the paper of the Dutch Collectors' Association.

Any other information that I can give you is at your service.

Yours faithfully,

C. GEORGE,

Vice-Consul of the Netherlands.

Lisbon, 15th Jan., 1895.



64, Cheapside, E.C.

WHEN I published the note in my last number that we wanted an assistant I was hardly prepared for the avalanche of replies. Nearly half a hundred letters have come to hand, many from well-known philatelists. I cannot, however, decide for another fortnight, and meanwhile must request all those who have applied for the vacancy to be patient. It is impossible to answer every letter individually.

I AM thankful to say the English album is getting on well, and before No. 10 is published all orders will be executed.

HARRY HILKETS.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—We have been repeatedly asked whether we allow any discount off our published rates; to this we have only one answer to give: we do not!! Advertisers who favour us with their orders will soon find that a two inch advertisement on our cover is of quite as much value as a page in one of those continental advertising sheets which sometimes comprises sixty to eighty pages scattered broadcast all over the Continent. I also beg to point out that no firm need apply for space whose record is not absolutely clear. We have refused various applications of somewhat doubtful firms and are very sorry to see the very same advertisements included in a good many British publications who ought to know better. If these shady gentlemen have no means of offering their doubtful wares, their business is gone and they have either to deal honestly or not deal at all. We know of more than one English firm who advertise in Continental papers under assumed names from their private addresses; the object for doing so can only be fraud.

OUR NEW PRIZE SCHEME.

WE promised our readers a new prize competition, and here it is. We wish to extend the circulation of this paper by every means in our power. Our readers can help us in this, and to induce them to do so, offer acceptable gifts to those readers who obtain *new* subscribers for the "S.C.F."

THE SPECIAL FEATURE OF THE COMPETITION

is that *everyone gets a prize*, provided he secures not less than six subscribers, which should be an easy matter to most readers. The following rules and general hints should be carefully perused by intending competitors:

(1) The subscriptions obtained must be each for a period of six months—twelve numbers, post free 1s. 6d. and in every case payment must be in advance.

(2) Competitors need not wait until the time for the termination of competition to send in their lists, but may send in as soon as they get six subscriptions, enclosing at the same time 9s. cash in payment therefor.

(3) The competition is by no means restricted to those who subscribed to the S.C.F. by post. The reader who buys his copy at his newsagents has an equal chance with the postal subscriber.

(4) The subscriptions obtained must, of course, be those of *new* subscribers—that is of persons whose names have not yet figured in our subscription ledgers.

Now for the prizes, which will be awarded on the following scale:—All competitors obtaining six new subscribers (at 1s. 6d. for twelve numbers, post free), will be credited with

A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION

(twenty-six numbers) to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. We may mention here that in the case of a competitor being already a subscriber, his prize subscription will, of course, date forward from the expiration of his existing subscription.

All competitors obtaining twenty-four new subscribers on the same basis will receive a prize of Five Shillings cash, in addition to a year's free postal subscription to the S.C.F.

Finally, the competitor who books the greatest number of subscriptions within a period of eight weeks from this date will receive a

PRIZE OF £2 2s. CASH,

in addition to a prize of 5s. cash for every set of twenty-four subscribers comprised in his grand total. The winner of this top prize will also be credited with a year's subscription on his own account.

All those who do not quite understand the particulars here given are invited to communicate with the Competition Editor, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C. To save time, querists are advised to enclose a stamped envelope, in which a prompt reply per post will be sent.



City of London Philatelic Club.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

WILL members bear in mind that all sheets for February packet should be in the hands of the superintendent before the first of the month, so that there may be no delay in the dispatch of the packet.

MON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Hon. Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, *Stamp Collectors' Journal*, *The Million*, *The World's Exchange*, *A. Smith and Son's Monthly Circular*, *The Connoisseur*, or *Collector's Journal*, and *Monthly Offers*.

From the Continent.—L'annonce *Timbrologie*, *Sau Marino Philatelist*, and *Die post*.

From the United States.—The *Philatelic Journal of America*, *Washington Philatelist*, *Metropolitan Philatelist*; also "Our Catalogue" from Messrs. R. F. Albrecht and Co.

From Canada.—The *Canadian Philatelist* from Mr. L. M. Staebber, and Nos. 1, 2 and 3 of his *Philatelic Handbooks*, *The Postage*, and *Revenue Stamps of British North America*, *The Stamp Collectors' Companion*, and *Canada and her Stamp Collectors*.

Mr. C. Forbes is also again indebted to Messrs. H. A. McMillan & Co., for Vol. II. and also Nos. 25, 27, and 29 *The Monthly Journal*, also Vols. I. and II., of *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*.

The Librarian is in want of many odd numbers of English and Foreign papers to complete files. Members having spare copies of any papers or books will greatly oblige if they will communicate with him at 42, Strand Road, Bow, E.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings every Thursday.

Application for membership or for particulars relating to the Club should be addressed to the Secretary, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JANUARY 26, 1895.

. . Between Ourselves . .

THE statements published by us in our Christmas number, exposing the practice of the P.P.A. have been reproduced in nearly every philatelic paper of note. There has been much wild talk of impending libel actions, and some of the officials of the P.P.A. have even gone so far in their desperation as to state that the whole exposure was only due to spite on our part. It is not necessary for us to assure our readers that this is not only idle talk, but an absolute falsehood; however, the very officials of the P.P.A. know nothing whatever about the inner working of this famous body, and we now put for the first time on record the following facts:—

Tactics of the P.P.A. After winning our action against Mrs. Hime, we were informed that a printed circular had been sent out to all members in which the name of our Mr. Hilckes was put forward for election to the P.P.A. proposed and seconded by Mr. M. P. Castle, Mr. Charles J. Phillips, and one other. As soon as this was ascertained, Mr. Hilckes addressed the following letter to Mr. Castle:—

"Dear Mr. Castle,—It has come to my knowledge that a printed circular was sent out by the Philatelic Protection Association some time ago, in which I was proposed for membership by yourself and Mr. Phillips, and seconded by one other whose name I did not ascertain. Although I fully appreciate your kindness in putting me forward for election I am compelled to refuse to become attached to the Association which harbours members who openly deal in forgeries, and others who lend themselves to practices which are not strictly honest and straightforward. The law of libel prevents me giving you names and details, but of course I am quite willing to tell you personally what I mean."

Very sincerely yours,

HARRY HILCKES.

Some members have even gone so far in their impotent rage as to write on their own account to German Societies to which we have belonged for many years past, stating their astonishment that we should belong to such Societies in the face of the fact that the P.P.A. refuse to admit us as members. This has gone so far, that in one instance the Secretary of a German Society was instructed by his Committee to enquire of Mr. Charles J. Phillips whether this was true. Of course Mr. Phillips could at once satisfy the gentleman in question, and there was an end to that matter. We only mention this to show to what straits the P.P.A. is driven; they cannot refute our facts, and, therefore, try the next best thing, to injure our reputation. Of course all this arises from

trade jealousy, and thus once more proves that a Philatelic Protection Association which is formed with the sole object to guard collectors against unscrupulous dealers cannot be governed by a coterie of dealers whose sole desire in life is to increase their banking account.

We are badly in want of a real Philatelic Protection Association to watch over the interests of Philatelists in general. We have proved to our readers that a large number of those now belonging to the P.P.A. have no moral right to that position. Honesty may be a very elastic word but there should only be one meaning from a philatelic point of view. As long as members have the audacity to sell forged stamps "on their merits" they forego their right to belong to such an Association.

As we did not like to mention Mr. M. P. Castle's name without having his sanction, we decided to send him the above article in manuscript first.

This is what the Vice-President of the London Philatelic Society wrote us in reply:—

Brighton, 18th January, 1895.

Dear Mr. Hilckes,

I can see no objection to your publishing your letter to me of a few months back. I had much pleasure in proposing you as a member of the P.P.A., and I certainly thought, independent of ordinary claims, that the successful issue of your action against Mrs. Hime gave you a title to recognition as having performed a very useful service to all the members of the Stamp Trade.

I never quite understood why the nomination was withdrawn, but as a member of the P.P.A. you will quite understand that it would be unbecoming of me to make any remarks on the controversy that has arisen.

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) M. P. CASTLE.

THERE! we fancy that is sufficient proof that we are not actuated by spite or malice in this matter. At present, we have nothing to add to our indictment of the "P.P.A." The public have the whole of the facts before them, and can sum them up themselves. It does not seem to be much of a distinction to belong to the "P.P.A."

* * *

It is gratifying to note that our foreign contemporaries are echoing our condemnation of the Philatelic Protection Association. We read in the *Illustrirtes German Briefmarken Journal*, the well-known organ of Messrs. Senf, of Leipzig, a verbatim copy of our indictment. Messrs. Senf add, by way of comment:—

The Philatelic Protection Association, founded some two years ago for the object of suppressing forgeries, seems to have executed their programme in a somewhat peculiar manner, if Mr. Harry Hilckes' allegations be true—which is hardly to be doubted, when one takes into consideration the character of the accuser.

In any case everyone will eagerly await the reply of the thus exposed Association, which knew how to introduce itself in such pompous and confidence-inspiring manner. Meanwhile philatelists would do well to exercise a discreet reticence towards that Association.

* * *

WE are at last able to report some progress under this heading. In reply to our letter sent to all the Auctions. London auctioneers, as indicated in our last number, Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, The London Philatelic Co., and Puttick & Simpson at once agreed to supply us with marked catalogues clearly showing which lots are sold and which lots are bought in. Mr. Hadlow replied that he did not feel justified in disclosing to the general public which lots were bought in and which were actually sold. He argues that the owner who buys a stamp in does not always wish to have such fact made public, as it might injure the future sale of the stamp; and since the price recorded by him is the next to the last genuine bid, he fails to see what harm can be done in considering such bid as a sale, even if no goods changed hands. To this we replied that no transaction can be considered a true sale unless there was a buyer and a seller. We admit that Mr. Hadlow's argument is not a bad one, but the question is this: which is the last genuine bid. We have seen many a case where the owner instructed some one in the rooms to keep up the bidding against himself to a certain figure, thus creating the

impression among those present that the bidding was genuine throughout. For instance, genuine bidding ceased at 22/-; owner and his friend bid up to 55/-, at which price the stamp was knocked down to the owner. Under ordinary circumstances, this price of 55/- would be considered the ordinary market value of the stamp, and to prevent these manipulations, we have started upon our crusade. Mr. Hadlow has, however, consented to let us have a catalogue, giving all prices which are genuine sales as far as he knows, leaving out all those doubtful transactions which may or may not be rigged. We shall, therefore, include Messrs. Hadlow's sales in our reports as we have done hitherto. Mr. Ridout has taken no notice of our letter. We shall, therefore, disregard his sales altogether. Many of our readers have expressed a wish to have our sales printed on separate sheets. We have, therefore, decided, during the auction season at least, to publish our records on a separate supplementary leaf in each issue, and, to bring it up to date, we publish in this number four extra pages.

"Specimen" on English Stamps.

BY JOHN K. CLIFFORD.

It has just been reported that £45 has been paid for an unused £1 anchor in mint condition, and it is only a year ago that the very same Stamp could not be sold for £6. Other unused English Stamps have shown similar rises, and where it was possible to buy an unused English Stamp for a few shillings barely 18 months ago, it requires now as many pounds to obtain the same Stamp, and collecting of English unused is as yet only in its infancy. The time cannot be far distant when it will be impossible to make anything like a complete collection, all the fine unused copies being then absorbed; and the question arises, what is the next best thing to collect as a substitute. Obviously those Stamps marked "Specimen," although now well despised, will then come to the fore. And why not! Surely an unused Stamp marked "Specimen" is in all cases preferable to a used copy. Does it not in every case combine essentials of an unused copy with the cheapness of a used one, moreover, a "specimen" stamp is in some cases even preferable to an unused copy. This is what Messrs. Hilckes state in their well-known catalogue:—

"Specimen" Stamps have not as yet been much collected by English collectors. There has been a certain antipathy against these, and collectors are apt to lose sight of the fact that a Specimen Stamp is really the representative copy of a Stamp, and for this reason, sheets surcharged with "Specimen," were as a rule those which were printed first; they must therefore be printed in the proper shade, on the proper paper and the design must show as clearly as it is possible. Unused copies, of course, also represent the respective Stamps, but such Stamp may be second, third, or even a later print, and therefore differ in some degree from the original approved issue. Then again, fine unused copies of many Stamps are extremely rare, and in every case where an used copy is nearly unattainable, a "Specimen" copy will take its place before a used one. Collectors, although not very much in favour of Specimen Stamps, have lately been obliged to pay some attention to them, and for this reason we thought it necessary to give prices, where possible."

How many can afford to pay these high prices for unused Stamps, and of those who can, how many have a chance to get the Stamps? Surely if it is impossible to get an unused £1 anchor, it is at present within the resources of most of us to get a "Specimen" copy, which has the above-mentioned advantage of being an early impression. I should be very pleased to hear from any of my readers what reason they can put forward towards substantiating their position, and perhaps the editor could find a little space for any letters received on this subject.

Why is a sheet of postage-stamps like distant relatives?—Because they are but slightly connected.

The Secret Marks of the Stamps of Hamburg.

Translated from the Dresden Philatelist with special permission by HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 71.)



Fig. 19.

(b) Over the letter "P" in Postmarke there is a dot and on the left side of this dot there are various shading lines, the first of which distinctly touches the letter "P." (Fig. 19).

(c) Under the left top part of the letter "r" in the word "Drei," there is a dot (Fig. 20), and another dot is placed under the foot of the "r" between the column and the arms.

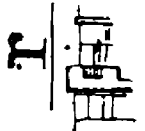


Fig. 20.

4 Schilling green, perf. and imperf.

(a) In the ornament forming the end of the right top scroll above the letter "g" in Hamburg, the first shading line is a dot.



Fig. 22.

(b) A small dot can be seen over the letter "c" in schilling. (Fig. 22).

(c) A similar dot is seen over the "c" in Postmarke. (Fig. 23).



Fig. 23.

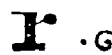


Fig. 24.

(d) Another dot stands between the "r" in "vier" and the first ornament to the right of it. (Fig. 24).

7 Schilling orange, perf. and imperf., and 7 Schilling mauve, perf.

(a) Over the "s" in schilling and between the column and the arms there is a small dot. (Fig. 25).



Fig. 25.



Fig. 26.

(b) Another dot can be seen just before the lower part of the "s" in "sieben," on a level with the little ornament. (Fig. 26).

(c) There are two dots within the letter "r" in Hamburg, and one dot following the "g." (Fig. 27.)



Fig. 27.

(I do not agree with the German authorities who state that the latter mark is only to be found on the mauve stamps, seeing that the mauve issue was printed from the same plate as the orange. If the latter cannot be seen on the orange, it appears to me reasonable to think that this is merely owing to the faint colour in which most of these stamps are printed.—H.H.)

9 Schilling yellow, perf. and imperf.

(a) Only one secret mark can be seen on this stamp, but this is very distinct. There is a dot after the letter "P" in Postmarke level with the foot line. (This is the mark which I pointed out in the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain some years ago, up till then the following was considered the only secret mark on this 9 schilling stamp). The letter "c" in the word schilling is supposed to end

in a dot, but this is so faint and indistinct that it certainly is not a sure test of the genuineness of the stamp.

1½ Schilling lilac, perf. and imperf.

There are no true engraver marks on these stamps, but the design shows certain characteristics which are sufficient to distinguish the genuine stamps from the forgeries.

- (a) The letters "a, b, and u" in the word "Hamburg" are crossed by thin shading lines.
- (b) In the second "i" in the word "Schilling" a shading line connects the two horizontal cross bars on the left side.
- (c) There is a full stop after the word "Postmarke," which is crossed by a shading line.

2½ Schilling green, issue 1864.

- (a) In the first "l" of the word schilling a similar dot can be seen as mentioned under the 2 schilling in (Fig. 15).

1½ Schilling violet and 1½ schilling rose.



The surest test of the genuineness of any specimen is the fact that the stars in the four corners must show a perfectly round white dot which must be in no way blurred.

Fig. 28.

(To be concluded).

Our Black List.

FRANCE UNPAID 40c. BLUE.

A VERY clever forgery, although of not very recent manufacture, has lately been offered. We cannot unfortunately give a photographic reproduction owing to the fact that blue is a colour not very easily reproduced by the line-process.

These are the most salient points:—The inscriptions on frame are too heavy in the forgery, whereas the word centimes appears much thinner. The shape of the 4 in 40 is totally different, being much thinner, and very badly drawn. The down stroke at the top ends in a point, whereas in the genuine stamp this stroke is well flattened.



GENUINE.



FORGERY.

WURTEMBERG, 18KR. 1st ISSUE.

ONE of the most frequent forgeries one meets with in small and medium collections is the one mentioned above; we append an enlarged photographic reproduction of a genuine copy in order to facilitate any comparison.



GENUINE.

By the aid of this photo it will be easy to detect the common or garden forgery; but the high-class article, which is even passed by so-called experts, is of a far more dangerous

character. This is how it looks:—



FORGERY.

The differences are of course quite plain.—1. The ornament in right bottom corner is badly drawn. 2. The "F" in "Freimarke" is much too thin. 3. The "8" in "18" is rounder at the top and bottom, whereas in the genuine stamp the figure is well flattened.

The next "forgery," as we call it, since the inscriptions are altogether re-set, is the Reprint, viz.:—



REPRINT (?)

Here the "r" and "W" in "Wurtemberg" are of an altogether different shape; the "b" is also much too small, &c.

These "Reprints" also exist with fraudulent postmarks.

CYPRUS 1d. RED.

THE common 1d. red English has recently been surcharged "Cyprus," and large quantities have been imported from France. The type is extremely well done, but the surcharge is distinctly over the postmark. We have also seen the "error" i.e., a double surcharge, of which we append an illustration. The surcharge at top is the forged one. The only mistake we can find is in the distance of the letter P from its neighbours. In the forged surcharge these letters are much closer to the P than in the genuine one. Of course the ink lacks all the peculiarities of the one used by Messrs. De La Rue, which has a singular glossy appearance.

Philately Abroad.

JAMES I. OF TRINIDAD.

THIS is the name of the self-styled prince who recently issued the stamps of the Principauté of Trinidad. But have we come down so low as to recognise his stamps without knowing the very curious history of the party in question? Well, this is what we learn from the "Dailies":—

"Eighteen months ago a French journalist, the former Editor of a Parisian paper, "Le Triboulet," with the high-sounding name Jacques Harden-Hickey landed on a deserted Island (somewhere in the neighbourhood of Rio de Janeiro). Seeing that it was not inhabited he determined to annex the island. After marrying the daughter of the New York millionaire, John Flayler, he sent a circular to all Governments notifying the fact that he, the Prince James I. of Trinidad, was a fact, and an established one, and he wished to be recognised as such according to International Law. The South American States recognised him at once, but we hope European Governments have not lent themselves to such a farce. However the stamps are duly trumpeted about by every philatelic paper, and now the question arises whether

there is no means of stopping such an obvious attempt of obtaining good money for rubbish."

We cannot but express our opinion that this rubbish should in no way be chronicled. If British philatelic papers would only make a start we are sure other countries would soon follow. There again what an immense amount of good could be done if we had a real Philatelic Protection Association.

BERCEDORF REPRINTS.

A most exhaustive article on these stamps has appeared in the leading German Philatelic paper "D.B.Z." translated from an article by Mr. J. B. Moens in the "Timbres Poste," by Mr. Frankel with such additions which he could make at the hand of the resources of the Berlin Postal Museum, and in connexion with this it is most gratifying to state that the original plates which were in the possession of Mr. Moens, have been purchased by the Berlin Museum, thus putting once and for all a stop to the flood of Reprints which has inundated philatelic markets for the past year. Some points with regard to the issue of these stamps are still somewhat dark, but no doubt the publication of the above mentioned article will bring forward all missing evidence, and we shall then have an opportunity to publish in extract, the final decision of the German experts.

PONTA DELCADA—PROVISIONAL.

On the 26th November, 1894, special permission seems to have been issued by the Post Office of this Portuguese Colony to halve the current 5 reis stamps, and use same as 2½ reis, in consequence of a sudden exhaustion of the ordinary brown 2½ reis stamps. The specimens shown to us were from the Eastern Telegraph Company, who informed our correspondent that this decree was only in force for two days.

HOW THE JAPANESE MAIL IS CARRIED.

As in England, so in Japan, the postman wears uniform. It consists of a suit of blue cloth, a wide butter-bowl hat, and straw shoes. The mail-bag swings under his arm, or is pushed along in a little two-wheeled cart. He is always running or trotting, for in Japan men do nearly all the work that we make horses do here; so you see the Japanese postman hasten along from station to station, travelling on a quick run mile after mile, up hill, down dale, never stopping until he reaches the place where another postman is waiting to receive the mail and run on with it in his turn. Thus is the mail carried on in the greater part of the empire.

MOURNING ENVELOPES.

ENVELOPES with effigies of President Carnot and the Tsar are of a purely private character, and are of not the slightest philatelic character although bearing the impressed stamp of 5c. This is, however, easily explained since everyone can buy the plain envelope at the post-office and print what he likes on the front.

BAVARIA 12kr.—VARIETY.

It is a very curious sign that many comparatively common Stamps are hardly as yet known in the true sense of the word.



Every now and then minor varieties are discovered. Quite recently a flaw was discovered in the 1kr. black of 1849, and now a further variety turns up in the next issue of 1849, 1851, which cannot, however, be a mere error of impression since the perforated series of the same stamps show a precisely similar flaw. We append an illustration which speaks for itself. We may add that it is

not as yet known how many of these faulty specimens occur on the plate. Perhaps our readers can enlighten us.

"Did you deliver that telegram to the person I described to you?" a clerk asked his messenger boy.

"Oh, yes," was the reply; only the man does not live in Abingdon Square, but in Charlton Street, and not on the ground floor, but up three flights of stairs, and not in the front room, but in the back yard; besides, his name isn't Johnson, but Thompson, and he isn't a man, but a woman, and she isn't a wood-turner, she's a trained nurse."

The Auction Fallacy.

(This article has been sent to us, unasked, by a collector who attends nearly every auction. We know this fact will be disbelieved, but we are prepared to show the original manuscript to any official member of the London Philatelic Society, but we cannot disclose the name of the writer to the general public.—Evs.)

A debt of gratitude is due from all honest buyers and sellers to the proprietors of the "S.C.F." for exposing the various trickeries that have grown up round the sale of stamps in the Auction Rooms.

It is a remarkable fact that a large number of persons, otherwise honest and upright, when they enter the region of stamp collecting and dealing, seem to lose their sense of integrity, and are unable to resist the temptation to indulge in deceptions and tricks which they themselves would justly characterize as *frauds* in any other connection—such tricks as:—

- 1.—The changing of stamps on approval books and sheets.
- 2.—The passing off of a stamp, known by them to be a forgery, as genuine, or "SOLD ON ITS MERITS."
- 4.—The faking of a surcharge or shade, shaving off the perforations, to leave a fair margin and "*an imperfect stamp*"!!

These are frauds—there is no other name for them, and the perpetrator is criminally dishonest.

There must be something of the lack of moral perception in the typical triplet, Auctioneer-Broker-Dealer, described by the writer of the letter in the first issue of this magazine of October 6th, 1894.

There can be no doubt about the immorality of a practice whereby an auctioneer secures by the speedy fall of his own hammer, a lot which he is selling for a customer (with a bidder or two in the room who would have been glad to advance a few shillings but for the quick turn of his wrist) then charges this customer, the vendor, with commission for *selling to himself*, and presently sells the lot so bought at a substantial profit to a purchaser, as "catalogued at so much"—"having brought so much at Messrs. So and So's auction on the 1st April," carefully concealing the fact that he himself purchased this particular specimen at *his own sale* at half figures, less 12½ per cent. or 15 per cent. vendor's commission.

The judgment of Lord Wynford, quoted on page 31 of this journal, shows that a practice of this sort is not only immoral; it is illegal, law and equity both forbidding it.

For all practical purposes, buyers and sellers everywhere will be agreed that it is sufficient to use our plain old English terms about it. It is illegal and dishonest.

It is quite a side issue to complain of an auctioneer who, having commission from clients to buy certain lots for them, puts in the limit price of their commission as a substantive bid to start the lot with. It may be a facile way of saving time, but it is doing a wrong to the buyers in the room, a wrong to the client who sends the commission, a wrong to the public whom it deceives as to "*auction prices*."

To make the matter plainer, let us take a case. Lot 130 is a very fine stamp—so, at least, catalogue says, with its "very fine." Mr. A sends by post a commission to the auctioneer to buy, and if "very fine" to go up to 45s. The lot is put up, hangs fire, someone bids a gentle 15s. to start it. Mr. Broker—the auctioneer—says with a bland and childlike smile, that would put the heathen Chinese to the blush—"Well, gentlemen, I have a bid of 45s." "45s., 45s., no more?"—blank astonishment on the faces of the listeners!!—down goes the hammer—most unfairly to the client at a distance, who is unmistakably "had." The company present wonder who is the greenhorn who would give 45s. for the stamp with the very elastic "very fine" attached. In the next list of auction prices the stamp is quoted as having brought 45s. with much gusto by Mr. Broker, who knows perfectly well that it was bought of *himself, by himself, on commission, above its value*, for a purchaser who, had he been present, would probably have obtained it for two-thirds of the price. There is, however, a still more serious evil which has not been touched upon by any who write on the subject, which bids fair to

destroy the confidence of collectors all round, and once that goes, good-bye to the stamp trade!

This is the farce enacted when the auctioneer is silent as to reserves.

Some auctioneers very rightly and properly are adopting the practice of printing in heavy type under certain lots Reserve £5, or whatever the sum may be. A noble example of honest intentions, but a noble fallacy, too, when other lots in the same sale, having reserves on them, are bought in at the reserves, and in due time figure in the priced catalogue as having been "sold" at these prices.

A half truth is the worst of truths, and here the deception is made worse by the frank appearance of the reserves that are declared, and the utter fallacy of auction prices as at present is at once exemplified.

An illustration of this, if needed, is found in the fact that at a sale of stamps during the present season certain reserves were declared and some of the lots so marked in the catalogue were sold, others bought in—so far, good; but (and here is the evil) those who were present heard twelve lots declared by the auctioneer to be bought in at a total of £35—yet in the priced catalogue afterwards sent out these twelve lots are represented as "sold." There was no bidding, though lots were bought in, the prices were entirely fictitious. To say they were sold is an untruth!!

Those who look over that auction list are, so far as these lots are concerned, absolutely deceived!! And then we talk about auction prices being a guide to the value of a stamp.

We used to imagine that an article sold at auction was knocked down to the highest bidder—another fallacy!! In regard to stamp auctions "Nous avons changé tout cela."

Our Forum.

*** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

DEAR SIRs,—I must say I do not agree with the way in which J.F.B. treats those terrible "Gumpaps," and I should advise him as indeed all collectors to ignore them entirely—also his hint to the "bewildered generalist." Although admitting that one is oft-times puzzled by the immense variety of these pretty labels I cannot help thinking that if collectors would treat them with the contempt they richly deserve we should not have long to wait for a way out of the difficulty. These pettifogging Governments, such as Cook Islands, French Colonies, Japan, China (Local), &c., would then give up the game as not being worth the candle. I am rather surprised that J.F.B. "cannot afford" to give up collecting them, if only for an example to younger collectors, who are only too ready to buy up the prettiest stamps (?) that meet their eye—and some of them are really very pretty.

I have, since taking in the "S.C.F.," boycotted them entirely—no easy thing to do either considering that I collect only unused; so surely a generalist in used stamps (for such I take J.F.B. to be) can afford to do his utmost to discourage the production of this "cheap nastiness" as one correspondent very appropriately calls it. Hoping all true collectors will take my view of the subject, and wishing you all success in your crusade against "Gumpaps," I am,

Faithfully yours,
WATERMARK.

Stafford, 4th January, 1895.

DEAR SIRs,—If you are not wearied of the correspondence about "Gumpaps," kindly let us know where we stand in this matter.

To exclude all "made for collectors" varieties would mean the dropping of the surcharged Ceylons, Straits Settlements, British Honduras, Seychelles, Oil Rivers, Niger Coast, and the beautiful stamps of North Borneo, Labuan, San Marino, the Central American States, and so on *ad infinitum*.

Now I contend that any stamp which has done actual postal service is deserving of a place in the album.

As a general collector I make it a rule to exclude all unused modern stamps and insist on having postally used copies, not those postmarked to order.

It is painful to look through collections containing set after set of these "gumpaps," bought at 2/- the set complete!

These cannot be called Stamps, I call them bobbin labels, and I would advise every collector who has them to tear them out and glue them well down in the baby's scrap book; then commence getting them postally used or on the original envelopes, but carefully avoid those "marked to order," and he will find out the extreme difficulty of completing his sets.

I am a member of two or three Exchange Clubs, and am constantly receiving packets, but up to the present have not seen a single used copy of North Borneo, but shoals of unused which I presume have never seen the light of N. Borneo, a fact which clearly proves they are made for ignorant collectors.

If the 2,500 readers of your journal would each convert one gumpap collector, as I have done, some good may result.

Yours faithfully,
Bradford, Jan. 6, 1895. W. E. W.

Answers to Correspondents.

*** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

O.R.R.—(a) Hong Kong 4d. gray with wmk. CA. was never issued—(b) India 6 annas, wmk. star has also never seen the light of day—(c) The first issue of Norway was Switzerland, printed in the blue-green shade, were only used never printed on wmk. paper—(d) The unpaid letter stamps of a very short time; hence their scarcity.

E.G.C. (London, S.W.)—Gwalior double impression. We should like to see your specimen before expressing an opinion. We should also like to see the Victoria you mention, we don't think the latter is genuine. Yes! we also notice what you state about the similarity between the 15c. of 1870 to the new issue of that country.

L. A. B. (Clapton.)—The Japanese postcard you send is perfectly genuine, but they are worth hardly anything. No, decidedly not; to chronicle new issues is in our opinion a waste of space, unless it could be done in such a way as to ensure absolute correctness.

URIAH HEEP (Strand).—Quite right; we did not give all the differences of the Argentine, nor did the "Million," we both picked out salient points in order to describe the article, but both descriptions referred to one and the same forgery. The English stamp you send is only on rather a deep blued paper; the cuts across are merely accidental.

A.K. (Isle of Wight).—Very pleased to hear that you consider the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY indispensable.

C.L.K. (Ringwood).—The party who has tried to swindle you is a very well known member of the dark fraternity who made life miserable for more than one philatelist a few years ago. He is wanted by the London police under more than half a dozen aliases, but we hardly think he is likely to venture across the channel again. If we had a strong Philatelic Protection Association, with branch offices all over the world, no doubt something could be done towards putting a stop to all these "gents." But the body we have now is neither useful nor can it be called ornamental.

ONE PENNY
POSTAGE
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY.
AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1895.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

Class a—Superb condition, if unused with gum, (mint state), if used, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post-marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, November 28, 1894.

Continued from page 69

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Oldenburg, Black on colour, 3gr. (broken 3), used ..	1	3	0
b	Colour on white, 3gr. (small g in groschen and broken frame) unused and fine, but no gum ..	3	0	0
b	Three fine unused copies, without gum, 16., £1, and ..	1	0	0
b	Another, with Berne postmark ..	1	6	0
a	do. 3gr., die 1 ..	1	10	0
b	do. 3gr., die 2, unused ..	0	18	0
b	do. 1gr. dark blue, unused ..	0	9	0
b	do. 2gr. red, unused ..	0	10	0
b	do. 3gr. yellow, unused, with gum ..	0	15	0
b	do. 3gr. orange ..	0	10	0
b	Queensland, Large star, 1., blue black, unused ..	0	17	0
c	Imperf. 6d., fine but slightly damaged ..	1	9	0
a	St. Christopher, 6d., olive-brown, unused ..	1	6	0
a	St. Lucia, 1., perf. 12, surcharged "ONE SHILLING REVENUE," used postally ..	0	11	0
b	St. Thomas, 3c., rose, rouletted ..	0	15	0
a	Saxony, 3pt., red ..	5	0	0
b	South Australia, 9d. grey, perf. and roulette, unused but no gum ..	11	0	0
c	Switzerland, Basle cut in right side ..	2	2	0
b	Poste Locale, 23rap., cross without frame ..	8	0	0
b	Orts Post, 23rap., do. do. do. unused ..	2	10	0
a	Trinidad, 6d., no watermark, small perf., unused ..	0	14	0
b	Id., do. large perf., do. two copies ..	0	10	0
b	Id., pin perf. 12½, unused ..	0	17	0
b	(1859), 6d. imperf. ..	0	11	0
b	Turks Islands, 2½d. on 1/- prune ..	1	6	0
b	United States, (1869), 24c., unused, no gum ..	1	3	0
b	(1869), 30c. do. do. ..	1	6	0
b	(1869), 90c. do. do. ..	3	5	0
b	do., Two used copies fetched £1 16s. and ..	1	17	6
a	Another ..	2	2	0
a	Columbus issue, 1s., unused ..	0	15	0
b	Victoria, emblems, 4d., rose, imperf., no watermark, unused strip of three, without gum ..	1	0	0
a	Virgin Islands, first issue, 6d., used ..	0	18	0
a	2½d., brown, watermark CC, unused ..	0	8	0
b	First issue, 4d., brown, imperf. and unused ..	1	0	0
b	1/-, brown, watermark CA., used ..	0	18	0
b	Western Australia, 6d., green, imperforate, unused ..	1	8	0
a	6d., watermark swan, on bleuté paper ..	1	1	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Wurtemberg, first issue, 18kr. ..	0	10	0
b	Another, lighter shade ..	0	12	0
b	18kr., imperf., no thread ..	1	5	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER'S SALE, Nov. 26th, 1894, and following days.

b	Antigua, 1 shilling mauve, 2 ..	1	6	0
a	Austria (1850), 3kr. red, rouletted ..	5	0	0
b	Bahamas (1859), 1d. rose ..	0	19	0
c	No wmk., 4d. rose, unused ..	3	12	6
b	Id., perf. 13, thick glazed paper, unused ..	1	1	0
b	Another ..	0	16	0
c	4d. rose, ditto, unused, cut at bottom ..	1	0	0
a	1/- green, unused, perf. 12½ ..	1	14	0
c	British Columbia, 5c., perf. 12½ ..	1	10	0
c	Another, unused ..	1	0	0
c	10c. perf. 12½ ..	0	14	0
b	25c., perf. 12½ ..	2	0	0
b	50c., perf. 12½, unused ..	2	4	0
b	Another, used ..	1	12	0
a	1 dollar, perf. 12½ ..	2	10	0
b	do., perf. 14, unused ..	5	7	0
c	British Guiana (1851), 4c ..	2	17	6
b	(1851), 1c. black on magenta ..	4	0	0
a	(1853), 4c. dark blue, line above value ..	1	8	0
b	Two others, light blue, 15s. and ..	1	1	0
b	Another, figures framed ..	1	1	0
b	(1860), 1c. rose, space between ..	1	4	0
c	5c. red on 12c. grey, cancellation over red surcharge ..	1	12	0
b	2c. provisional, crossed ovals ..	2	6	0
a	4c. S.G. No. 61, type 41 ..	9	0	0
b	2c. on 8c. official of 1863 ..	1	6	0
b	(1888), 1c., 3 masts, unused, not perforated "specimen" ..	2	2	0
b	2c. on 24c. official of 1863, block of 4 ..	1	10	0
a	British Honduras, 1/- grey, unused ..	1	10	0
a	(1882) 2c. on 6d., perf. 12½, unused ..	1	18	0
a	Brunswick, 1sgr., black on yellow, rouletted in short lines ..	3	7	6
b	3sgr., rose on white, unused ..	1	3	0
b	Buenos Ayres, "Cuato Ps," brown ..	1	0	0
b	"In Ps," brown ..	1	2	6
a	Canada, 6d., dark violet, on wove ..	2	4	0
b	6d., on laid, 2 shades ..	1	12	0
b	6d., on slightly ribbed, 2 shades ..	1	18	0
b	3d., on slightly ribbed, unused ..	1	4	0
a	Pair ditto, used ..	1	0	0
c	3d., on very thin ribbed ..	1	14	0
a	7½d. ..	2	4	0
b	10d. ..	0	16	0
c	3d., perf. 14 ..	1	0	0
b	6d. perf. 12, dark grey, corner thinned ..	7	0	0
a	3d. perf. 12 ..	1	1	0
a	1c. red-brown, laid paper, pen-marked ..	1	8	0
b	Another, postmarked ..	2	6	0
a	3c. thick laid paper ..	0	15	0
b	Cape of Good Hope, 6d. lilac, bleuté, penmarked ..	0	5	0
b	Another, postmarked ..	1	12	0
b	1/- emerald ..	0	16	0
a	4d., rouletted, pair on part of original ..	7	15	0
c	1d. dark red, woodblock ..	1	10	0
b	4d. wood block ..	1	6	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.			
		£	s.	d.	
b	Ceylon, 4d., imperf., two copies, £6 6s. and	..	6	15	0
b	9d. .. .. .	..	3	3	0
b	Another, very slight margins .. .. .	..	3	0	0
a	1/9. .. .. .	..	2	10	0
a	Another, perforated, unused .. .. .	..	3	0	0
b	3d. on white, 2 shades .. .. .	..	0	13	0
b	5d., carmine brown, no wmk .. .. .	..	1	5	0
b	Another, not so good .. .. .	..	0	9	0
b	2r. 50c., perf. 12½ by 14, unused .. .. .	..	2	12	0
c	Another, used .. .. .	..	1	2	0
a	24c., purple brown, "specimen" .. .. .	..	2	15	0
a	Confederate States, Charleston, 5c. blue, on piece of original .. .. .	..	1	12	0
c	Memphis, 5c. red, 2 on original .. .. .	..	2	2	0
b	Grove Hill, 5c. black on white, on original envelope, uncatalogued .. .. .	..	50	0	0
a	Mobile, 5c. blue, on original .. .. .	..	1	1	0
a	Nashville, 5c. carmine, bluish paper, on original .. .. .	..	4	4	0
a	(1864), 2c. carmine, strip of 5, on original £2 4s. and	..	3	5	0
a	Costa Rica, "Dos Cts" vertical on ¼r. blue, unused, pair .. .. .	..	1	5	0
a	Same, double surcharge, unused .. .. .	..	0	16	0
a	Same, double surcharge, and additional surcharge "2cts." in red, unused .. .. .	..	1	16	0
c	Fernando Poo (1868), 20c. brown, unused .. .. .	..	1	5	0
c	Fiji, Times Express, 1/- quadrille, penmk. .. .. .	..	0	9	0
b	6c. green, V.R. in fancy capitals .. .. .	..	2	12	0
b	12c. carmine, do. .. .. .	..	1	0	0
c	"2d." (sic) in red on 6d. green, do. .. .. .	..	0	16	0
c	do., V.R. in Roman capitals .. .. .	..	0	16	0
b	France (1849), 20c. blue on piece of original with dated pmk. .. .. .	..	7	0	0
b	1fr. vermilion .. .. .	..	5	15	0
c	Newspaper 2c. rose, imperf. .. .. .	..	3	3	0
b	Gaboon, 50c. on 15c. blue. .. .. .	..	1	12	0
b	75c. do. .. .. .	..	1	10	0
a	Great Britain (1881), 1/- salmon, wmk spray .. .. .	..	1	6	0
b	2/- red-brown .. .. .	..	2	0	0
b	Another, perforated initials .. .. .	..	0	18	0
c	£5 orange .. .. .	..	1	16	0
b	Hanover, 10gr. .. .. .	..	1	16	0
b	Hong Kong, 96c., yellow brown .. .. .	..	0	15	0
b	12c. on 10 dollars, unused .. .. .	..	0	15	0
b	India, 2 annas, green, imperf., unused .. .. .	..	1	3	0
a	(1867) Service, 2 annas, black and lilac .. .. .	..	1	1	0
b	Ditto, 2 annas, green and lilac, unused .. .. .	..	3	8	0
a	Ionian Islands, 2d. lake .. .. .	..	0	15	0
a	Another, on original .. .. .	..	1	5	0
a	Labuan, 2c., on 8c., block of 10, unused .. .. .	..	1	1	0
a	8c. on 12c., carmine, block of 10, unused .. .. .	..	1	12	0
a	6c. on 8c., sheet of 10 .. .. .	..	1	2	0
a	16c., blue, C.C., sheet of 10 .. .. .	..	3	5	0
a	2c., green, C.A. .. .. .	..	1	2	0
a	Ditto, watermark reversed .. .. .	..	1	12	0
a	10c., grey-blue, C.A., sheet of 10 .. .. .	..	1	10	0
a	Lagos, 10/-, C.A., brown-violet, unused .. .. .	..	4	0	0
b	Lubeck, 2½sch., error, unused .. .. .	..	2	8	0
c	Luxenburg, 4c., black, error .. .. .	..	4	4	0
b	Madeira (1868), 5r., black surcharge .. .. .	..	2	0	0
b	Mauritius, 4d., black on green .. .. .	..	2	18	0
c	Mecklenburg-Strelitz, ½gr., green .. .. .	..	0	8	0
a	1sch, violet .. .. .	..	2	17	6
b	Mexico, medio real blue, gothic surcharge .. .. .	..	0	17	0
b	Un real blue, do., on original .. .. .	..	0	16	0
a	Guadalajara, un real, blue quadrillé, pair on original .. .. .	..	1	0	0
a	(1867) un real, violet quadrillé .. .. .	..	2	2	0
a	Cuernavaca, 2 reales, black on white, on original .. .. .	..	6	0	0
b	Modena, Newspaper, 9c. violet, large B. G. .. .. .	..	2	4	0
a	Monaco, 5frs. rose on green, unused .. .. .	..	1	15	0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose on grey, unused .. .. .	..	1	12	0
a	6d. on gray, unused .. .. .	..	2	10	0
b	1/- green on grey .. .. .	..	0	18	0
c	(1886) 6d. green, C.A., unused .. .. .	..	3	3	0
a	New Brunswick, Half of 6d., used on original .. .. .	..	4	4	0
b	Connell, no gum, unused .. .. .	..	20	0	0
a	Half of 10c., used on original .. .. .	..	4	0	0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange red, unused .. .. .	..	1	0	0
c	4d. orange red .. .. .	..	1	14	0
a	6d. orange red .. .. .	..	1	18	0
a	Half of 8d. scarlet red, used on original .. .. .	..	3	15	0
c	2d. lake .. .. .	..	1	2	0
b	1/- lake .. .. .	..	1	8	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
	New South Wales, Sydney Views, all good copies			
	(a or b)			
	1d., 19 single specimens fetched from 26/- to 52/6, averaging 39/- each			
	5 pairs fetched from 60/- to 88/-, averaging 71/- a pair			
	2d., plate 2, 2d. on yellowish, "Crevit" omitted	7	15	0
	2d on bluish ribbed,	8	10	0
	23 other single specimens fetched from 16/- to 90/-, averaging 32/- each			
	2 pairs went at 28/- and 55/- respectively			
	3d., 7 single specimens fetched from 24/- to 63/-, averaging 43/- each			
	2 pairs fetched 47/6 and 67/6 respectively			
	<i>Laureated.</i>			
a	2d., stars in corners, ribbed paper	1	3	0
a	do., do.	1	6	0
b	do., WAEEES	2	4	0
b	do., pair, on wove	2	0	0
a	2d., no wmk., unused	1	2	0
a	6d. fawn brown, plate 1	2	4	0
c	6d. slate-brown, plate 2	0	15	0
b	New South Wales, 8d. orange	2	16	0
b	Another	1	12	0
b	Another, fine shade	4	4	0
c	Another, ribbed paper	1	6	0
b	Another, vertically ribbed	4	15	0
c	Another, cut into, fine shade	2	2	0
b	1d. orange, wmk., unused	1	2	0
	<i>Diadem. Imperforate.</i>			
b	2d. blue, wmk. single line 2, unused	1	6	0
b	5d. green, unused	1	12	0
b	do., 2 used, fetched each	3	0	0
b	6d. deep violet	1	5	0
a	6d. slate, wmk. 8, sideways	1	1	0
b	6d. bright violet, wmk. invert.	1	3	0
a	8d. dark orange	4	0	0
b	8d. orange	3	2	0
b	do., wmk. invert.	1	5	0
a	8d. dark blue, proof but used	1	1	0
a	1/- carmine	2	0	0
b	1/- do., lighter shade	1	0	0
b	1/- vermilion, wmk. 8	1	0	0
b	1/- carmine, wmk., invert.	1	12	0
	<i>Diadem. Perforate.</i>			
c	5d. green, unused	0	15	0
c	8d. deep orange, unused	0	15	0
a	1/- bright carmine	0	10	0
a	1/- lake	1	1	0
a	Registration, perf. 12, carmine and blue, wmk.	1	17	0
a	do., perf. 12½, double impression	3	3	0
c	do., perf. 13, no wmk, unused	1	1	0
b	New Zealand, 1/-, blue paper	2	2	0
b	Another	1	17	0
c	2d., thick paper, perf. 13	0	16	0
b	1d. orange, pelure	1	18	0
b	1/-, rouletted, pelure	1	2	0
b	1d., roul., star wmk., unused	2	0	0
b	3d., roul., star wmk.	1	12	0
a	2d. vermilion, wmk. lozenges	3	6	0
c	6d. blue, perf. 10 x 12½	1	3	0
a	£8, telegraphically used	0	13	0
a	£9, do.	0	15	0
a	£10, do., 2 copies averaged	0	15	0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown, pair	2	4	0
b	1d. yellowish-brown	1	5	0
a	3d. light blue, pair, unused	2	6	0
a	Two-and-a-half 3d. stamps, used, on whole originals, 3 envelopes averaged	2	1	0
a	Half of 6d., on original	2	0	0
b	1/- violet	11	0	0
a	Half 10c., cut diagonal, on original	2	4	0
a	do., cut vertical, on original	2	12	0
b	Oldenburg (1851), ½s.g.	1	6	0
a	(1858), ½s.g., unused	5	5	0
b	do., 2gr.	0	17	0
a	do., another	1	6	0
a	do., 2gr., error <i>Oldenburg</i>	2	17	6
c	do., 3gr.	1	6	0
b	(1860), ½gr.	3	16	0
b	do., ½gr.	1	2	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Oldenburg (1860), ½ gr.	0	16	0
a	do., 3 gr.	1	0	0
a	Peru, ½ peso yellow, penmarked, 3 copies averaged ..	2	16	0
b	1 dinero red, arms sideways	0	10	0
b	Philippines (1855), 5c. verm., lithograph	2	0	0
c	Queensland, 1d. imperf., unused	2	12	0
c	do., used	0	15	0
c	2d. imperf.	4	4	0
b	1d. orange, script. wmk., square perfs., unused ..	2	5	0
b	(1879) 1d. imperf., pencil marked	1	0	0
a	(1882) 1d. yellow	1	0	0
a	St. Helena, 1d. imperf., long line, pair unused ..	1	1	0
a	St. Vincent, ½d. red on 6d. yellow-green, pair, unused	2	0	0
b	Saxony, 3pf.	4	10	0
b	Schleswig-Holstein, (1850) 1sch., unused	0	14	0
c	2sch. rose	4	0	0
a	Sierra Leone, 3d. gold-yellow, perf. 12½, unused ..	0	7	0
c	South Australia, 1d. imperf., pair	1	12	0
b	2d. verm., imperf., pair, unused	1	18	0
b	(1866) 2d. orange, star wmk., roul. vertically, perf. 11½ horizontally, uncatalogued	3	3	0
a and b	3d. red surch., 3 copies averaged	1	1	0
b	wmk. V and Crown, 4d. violet, pair	4	0	0
a	wmk. SA. and Crown 10d. yellow and blue	16	16	0
b	Straits Settlements, Bangkok, 2c. brown, CC. ..	1	10	0
a	Sungei Ujong, ½ anna blue, unused	3	15	0
b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r., essay	1	1	0
c	Geneva, 5c. dark green	0	12	0
a	Zurich, 4r., type 4	16	15	0
a	do., 6r., type 3	1	6	0
a	Ortspost, cross not framed, vertical pair	3	0	0
a	Tasmania, 1d. blue, 2 stamps, each	2	15	0
b	4d. orange, unused	1	4	0
a	do., on ribbed	0	14	0
b	4d. blue, serrated 20	2	14	0
b	1d. carmine, serrated, unused	0	12	0
a	1/- red, perf., scg. S in black, unused	0	14	0
b	1/- red, perf., imperf. between, pair	0	16	0
b	(1870) 4d. blue, unused	3	0	0
c	do., another, used	0	19	0
b	(1871) 1d. no wmk., imperf.	1	0	0
a	do., 3d. brown, imperf.	1	0	0
a	Tolima, (1870) 10c. black on white, penmark	0	18	0
b	5c. black on blue, penmark	1	2	0
a	Transvaal, (1870), 6d. dark ultramarine	0	16	0
a	(1871) 6d. blue, eagle with partly closed wings, imperf., unused	4	0	0
b	(1875) 6d. blue, pelure, wide roulette	2	6	0
c	(1877) 1d. red, pelure	1	6	0
a	do., do., inverted scg.	2	7	6
b	(1877) 1/- green on yellowish	0	16	0
c	(1878) 3d. lilac on green, italic V.R., wide roulette ..	3	3	0
b	Een Penny on 4d. olive, inverted	1	11	0
b	do., large surcharge	1	12	0
b	(1883) 3d. black on rose, imperf.	1	11	0
c	Trinidad, lithograph, fine impression, dark blue ..	1	16	0
b	do., do., pale blue	2	15	0
b	do., do., coarse, red	2	10	0
a	do., do., blue	2	15	0
a	do., do., dark grey	2	8	0
b	do., do., grey	1	6	0
b	(1859) 6d. green	1	12	0
b	(1860) 1/- deep steel blue	1	6	0
b	(1863) (1d.) lake, perf. 11½ x 12, uncatalogued	0	17	0
b	do., 4d., violet, CC., unused	1	1	0
a	Turks Islands, 2½d. on 1/- prune, large scg., unused ..	1	10	0
b	2½d. on 1d. verm., short 2 straight tail, ½ thin figures unused	5	0	0
a	do., do., same 2, ½ thick figures, unused	3	10	0
b	2½d. on 1/- prune, same scg. as last, unused	2	0	0
a	4d. on 1d. verm., short thick figure	1	6	0
a	do., large thin figure	1	1	0
a	4d. on 1/- prune, short thick figure, unused	2	6	0
a	4d. on 6d. black, large thin figure, inverted surcharge	6	10	0
b	Victoria (1850), 1d. rose, roulette	2	0	0
a	do., 2d. dull lilac, fine background	4	0	0
a	do., 2d. grey lilac, fine border	1	0	0
a	do., 3d. dark blue on blue paper	1	1	0
b	(1854), 1/- blue, roul. 7½	2	2	0
b	Beaded oval, 3d. brown lake, imperf.	2	10	0
b	do., 4d. brown lake	2	0	0
a	do., 4d. rose, pair, wmk. "Five Shillings"	0	15	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Victoria, do., 4d. rose, wmk. 4, imperf., on original ..	2	10	0
b	do., 6d. orange	6	0	0
a	Laureated, 4d. rose, imperf., wmk. single lined ..	1	0	0
a	do., do., do., wmk. double lined	1	1	0
a	do., 6d. black, imperf., wmk. 6	1	1	0
a	do., 5/- blue on yellow	5	12	6
b	do., do., do.	3	0	0
b	10d. brown, half cut diagonally, on original	0	10	0
a	Virgin Islands, 1/-, black borders, unused	2	10	0
b	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red	1	0	0
b	2d. bright red	3	0	0
a	Another, very fine	7	10	0
a	6d. bronze	2	4	0
a	4d. blue, roulette	3	0	0
c	1/- brown, roulette	3	3	0
c	(1860) 2d. verm., roulette	2	10	0
b	(1860) do., pin perf. 18	1	0	0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., December 10 and 11.

a	Barbadoes, 5/- lake	1	9	0
a	Bolivia, 50c. blue, eagle	3	12	6
b	500c. black, 11 stars, unused	2	8	0
a	British Columbia, 10c. pink, perf. 12½, unused ..	3	0	0
a	1 dollar, do., do.	2	16	0
c	British Guiana, 2c. yellow, border hearts	1	16	0
b	1c. dark brown, unused	1	14	0
b	Canada, 7½d. green	1	10	0
c	Cape of Good Hope, 4d. wood block, unused	4	5	0
b	Ceylon, Imperforate, 4d., unused	18	10	0
b	do., 5d. brown	2	2	0
b	do., 9d. violet-brown	2	6	0
b	1/9, unused	2	2	0
a	4d. deep rose, star wmk., perf.	0	15	0
b	9d. ochre-brown, star wmk., perf., unused	1	3	0
a	Dominica, 1/- carmine, "Revenue," used on orig. ..	1	1	0
a	Fiji, Times Express, 1d. on quadrillé, unused	1	14	0
a	do., 1/- and 1d., unsevered pair on quadrillé, unused	4	4	0
c	(1874), 2d. black on 6c., Gothic V.R.	1	7	0
a	do., 2d. red on 6c., do.	1	3	0
b	do., 2d. black on 12c., do., unused	4	7	0
b	do., another, round stops after V and R., unused ..	5	0	0
b	do., 6c. green, Gothic V.R., unused	1	16	0
b	do., 12c. carmine, do., do.	1	12	0
b	Great Britain, 2/- salmon	1	7	0
c	6d. octagonal, unused	1	0	0
c	Vertical pair, unused	1	16	0
a	India, 4 annas, pair, blue wavy line	1	12	0
a	Another pair	1	5	0
b	Another pair, cut close	0	14	0
c	Strip of four	2	0	0
a	Nevis, 1/- green, perf. 15, engraved	1	6	0
b	4d. rose, first issue, unused	2	6	0
c	6d. grey, damaged, unused	1	3	0
b	Another, used	1	1	0
b	Newfoundland, 6d. orange-vermilion	1	5	0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. plate II., unused ..	7	0	0
b	3d. pair	3	5	0
b	1d., 2 pairs each	4	10	0
b	1d., 5 stamps averaged	1	12	0
b	2d., 12 stamps averaged	1	10	0
b	3d.	0	19	0
b	Laureated, 2d. stars, pair	1	5	0
b	do., 8d. orange	2	2	0
c	do., 6d. coarse ground, pair	1	6	0
a	do., 2d. stars, 4 on original, averaged	0	17	0
a	Diadem, 3d. green, imperf. thick unwatermarked paper, pair unused	12	0	0
a	Diadem, 2d. perf., pair unused	1	3	0
b	5d. imperf., unused	2	4	0
a	5d. perf., inv. wmk., block of 6, unused	1	10	0
b	8d. imperf., on original	5	0	0
a	10/- provisional, O.S.	1	5	0
a	Another	1	4	0
c	New Zealand, 1d. on blue paper, unused	2	8	0
c	do., used	0	16	0
c	1/- on blue paper	0	17	0
c	Pelure, 1d., 2, each	0	16	0
b	6d. brown, unused	1	12	0
b	1/- dark green, perf.	2	4	0
b	6d. thick paper, perf.	2	2	0
b	6d. blue, thick paper, perf. 12½	1	3	0
a	4d. yellow, no wmk., 2 pairs averaged	1	5	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Peru, Medio Peso, yellow..	..	3	0
b	Portuguese Indies, 4½r. on 4or. blue of 1873	..	2	10
a	6r. on 2oor. yellow of 1873	..	2	0
c	Queensland, 1d. imperf. unused	..	1	3
b	1d. imperf. pair	..	4	0
a	2d. imperf., pair	..	24	5
b	(1882) 4d. imperf.	..	0	14
c	6d. no wmk., square perf., unused	..	0	19
b	South Australia, 1d. yellow-green, imperf.	..	0	15
b	1/- orange, imperf. pair	..	3	10
b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r.	..	3	15
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue, strip of 3	..	5	10
b	1d. blue, unused	..	5	15
c	do., 3 stamps averaged	..	1	11
c	(1855), 1d. red, no wmk.	..	1	0
c	do., 1d. brown-red, strip of 6, pelure	..	3	17
b	do., 1d. rose-red, serrated, unused	..	0	15
b	do., 1d., star wmk., penmark, pair	..	0	14
c	do., do. postmark, pair	..	0	19
a	do., 2d., no wmk., pair	..	1	8
b	do., 4d., serrated	..	1	0
b	do., 4d., oblique cuts, penmark	..	0	12
a	do., 1/-, rough roulette, penmark	..	0	17
c	(1863), 1d., wmk. 2, penmark	..	1	3
b	(1870), 4d. blue, strip of 4, unused	..	5	15
b	Transvaal, 6d. blue, pelure, wide roulette	..	1	0
a	Trinidad, 6d. green, imperf.	..	2	6
a	Victoria, 2d., fine background, on original	..	3	5
c	Another, damaged, on original	..	0	18
c	5/- blue on yellow, piece off corner	..	2	4
c	Emblems, 4d. rose-red, star wmk., roulette	..	1	3
c	do., do., no wmk., imperf.	..	0	16
c	do., do., wide laid, perf.	..	0	16
b	Beaded oval, 6d. orange, on original	..	6	0
a	do. 4d. rose, no wmk., unused	..	1	14
b	West Australia, (1855) 2d. red-brown	..	3	8
b	do., 1/- brown, unused	..	1	3
b	do., 4d. blue, roulette, unused	..	3	5
c	do., 1/- brown, roulette	..	0	18
a	2d. lilac, unused	..	10	10

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, Dec. 12 and 13.

a	Antioqua, (1875), 10c. lilac on laid	..	1	1
b	Baden, 3kr. rose, perf. 13, unused	..	3	5
b	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf.	..	1	4
b	4d. rose, no wmk., unused	..	1	16
b	6d. grey, "	..	2	12
a	Barbados, 5/- rose	..	1	10
a	Bavaria, 12kr., perf., unused	..	1	6
a	Bolivia, 50c. blue, 1st issue, unused	..	1	12
a	British Bechuanaland, 2d. in green on 2d. black and lilac	..	2	10
a	British Guiana (1853), 1c. verm., strip of 4 on original	..	8	5
a	do., do., strip of 3 and a single on original	..	6	6
a	A similar lot	..	7	10
2a	2c Same, block of 4	..	4	0
b	(1860), 1c. brown, unused	..	1	0
a	do., 1c. dark brown, unused	..	1	16
b	do., 1c. dark brown	..	1	10
b	do., 1c. black on rose, border of grapes	..	10	10
a	Canada, 7½d. green	..	2	6
c	12d. black, specimen	..	1	16
c	Cape of Good Hope, 1d. red, woodblock, 2 averaged	..	1	17
b	4d. light blue, woodblock	..	1	7
a	4d. dark blue, do.	..	3	10
c	Ceylon, Imperforate, gd. violet-brown	..	3	12
a	do., 1/9, unused	..	2	4
b	do., 1/9	..	1	6
a	do., 2/-	..	4	5
a	do., 8d. brown, star wmk., unused	..	4	15
a	Denmark, 2r-sk, 1st issue, unused	..	1	12
c	(1858), 8sk. (wavy spandrels), perf.	..	1	2
a	Great Britain, 1½d. lilac rose, unused	..	1	2
b	2/- brown, unused	..	5	0
a	2/6 lilac on bluish, unused	..	0	18
b	5/ rose, plate II., unused	..	1	0
b	5/- rose, plate IV., unused	..	5	0
a	£1 marone, wmk. 3 crowns, unused	..	3	5
b	£5 telegraphically used	..	1	14
b	Hamburg, 4sch., imperf.	..	1	14
a	Hanover, 10gr., unused	..	2	8

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown	..	0	17
b	India. Service, 6a. 8p. unused	..	3	5
a	do., 2a. (large rect.), lilac	..	1	16
a	do., 2a. (long rect.), penmark	..	1	0
a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. and 2d. used together on entire, early state of plate	..	17	10
a	do., 1d. on bluish, later state	..	1	6
c	do., 2d. later state	..	1	6
c	Small Fillet, 2d., unused	..	1	4
a	do., another, used	..	2	2
b	Greek Border, 1d.	..	1	3
c	Brittania, gd. magenta	..	0	15
b	do., 4d. black and green	..	1	0
a	Natal (1857), 1d. pink	..	1	0
c	do., 1/- buff, on original	..	1	10
b	Nevis, 4d. rose, unused	..	2	8
a	Another, penmark	..	1	8
b	6d. grey-lilac, unused	..	2	6
a	1/- green, unused	..	3	3
c	Another, unused	..	1	0
a	New Brunswick, 6d. dark yellow, on orig.	..	2	6
a	1/- violet, cut rather close	..	9	9
c	Another, damaged	..	4	0
b	Newfoundland, 4d. orange, unused	..	6	10
b	6½d. carmine red, unused	..	15	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d. plate 1	..	0	16
a	" 3d.	..	0	18
a	" 3d. on laid, 2, each	..	1	16
a	Laureated, 3d. green, wmk. 2	..	7	10
b	1/- dull rose, imperf.	..	1	2
b	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue paper	..	0	17
a	1/- blue-green, on thick, roulette	..	5	0
b	1/- green, wmk. N.Z., roulette	..	1	6
b	1/- green, pelure, unused	..	3	15
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red brown	..	1	5
a	1/- violet, penmark	..	10	10
b	Oldenburg, (2nd. issue) ¾gr.	..	3	15
b	do., ¾gr.	..	1	0
b	(3rd. issue) ¾gr. unused	..	1	8
b	" ¾gr. moss-green	..	1	1
a	Peru, Medio peso, yellow	..	2	10
b	Saxony, 3pf., penmark	..	2	10
b	South Australia, 1/- orange, imperf., 2 averaged	..	1	4
c	3d. red. surcharge	..	0	16
c	Spain, (1851), 2 reales, red	..	11	11
b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r.	..	3	0
a	do., another	..	4	8
a	Tasmania, 1d. blue, strip of 4, penmark	..	9	0
a	1d. dark blue, strip of 4, on orig.	..	7	0
a	1d. blue, vert. strip of 3, on orig.	..	5	7
b	4d. orange, unused, but ink spot	..	1	12
b	4d. orange, 36 stamps in strips and blocks (3 to 8 in a lot) averaged each	..	0	7
a	Trinidad, ¾d. black and mauve, CA., unused	..	3	10
a	United States, New York P.O., 5c. black, penmark	..	1	7
c	do., another, unused and signed	..	0	17
a	(1857), 90c. blue, unused	..	2	8
a	(1861), 5c. mustard	..	0	17
a	(1869), 90c...	..	2	0
c	Another	..	1	0
b	(1870), 10c. brown, grill, unused	..	1	2
a	City Despatch Post, 3c. black on bluish, block of 6	..	11	0
a	do., a single, unused	..	2	0
c	Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow	..	2	12
b	Virgin Islands, 1/- single line border	..	2	10
b	1/- double line border, unused	..	2	4
c	Western Australia, 2d. brown-red	..	1	10
b	Another	..	1	5
c	4d. blue, vert. pair, unused	..	1	2
a	6d. bronze, superb	..	6	0
c	Two others, averaged	..	1	10
a	1/- brown, roulette	..	1	8

Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, December 17, 1894.

a	Antigua, 6d. imperf. unused	..	3	0
b	Bavaria, 12kr. perf. 2 copies averaged	..	1	1
b	Ceylon, 9d. imperf. unused	..	1	16
b	French Colonies, 4c. grey	..	0	18
a	Great Britain, £1 Maltese cross	..	1	0
a	do., 6d. purple, imperf. used at Alexandria	..	1	4
a	do., 10s. Maltese cross	..	0	12

(To be continued.)

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Doings of Societies.

BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
NORTHAMPTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
ROCHDALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

No reports to hand on going to press.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On December 6th, R. H. Hunter, Esq. (Ottawa), J. Fiquet (Paris), were elected members. Report of Oldham Society was received with thanks. Circulars from Manchester Society re Federation examination were partly discussed and then handed over to Committee to report on same. Display Great Britain. The President exhibited a fine lot of unused, nearly every variety being shown in nice shades, singles, pairs, strips, and blocks. Messrs. Pimm, Walton and Johnson showed collections of used and unused, including reconstructed sheets of various values; perhaps the most interesting being the separate plates of the 8 cents, perfs., and papers of the early 1d. reds.

On December 20th, C. Manly, Esq. (Bath), Dr. G. H. Hall (Birmingham) were elected ordinary members. The Hon. Treasurer was requested to purchase W. Brown's Straits Settlements for the library. Votes of thanks were given to Messrs. T. Buhl and Co. for complete files of the *Philatelic Record* and *Stamp News* for 1894; to C. G. Vogel for the *Int. B. Offertenblatt*; to H. Hilckes for *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, and to L. M. Staebler for *Canadian Philatelist*.

Mr. W. Pimm read his paper on "Ceylon," illustrating it by means of his own very large and fine collection of these stamps.

On December 21st, the September packet was returned, and all amounts due to members were sent next day.

The last three packets were £167 3s. 6d., £177 15s. 9d., and £202 14s. 11½d., and with the last one, a nice packet (£118 7s. 8d. in net cash) was included from the Canadian Society. It has also been arranged that a packet from the Canadian Society shall be circulated each month.

On January 3rd, 1895, the President handed round the Diary published by S. Gibbons, Limited, which had been presented by Mr. Phillips. The Diary itself is fully up to date, but members regretted that particulars of the B. P. S. were of such an antediluvian nature. This lapse of our worthy friend and fellow member is hardly in accord with the advanced ideas of the manager of Stanley Gibbons, Limited.

The Hon. Sec. read his paper on South Australia, illustrating the issues, shades, wmk., and papers from his own collection,

which had been arranged according to the "Hand book on South Australia," and pointed out several varieties not chronicled therein.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday, January 8th, at the house of Dr. Murray, the President. The time was mainly occupied in routine business: report, balance sheet, and election of officers. Dr. J. A. H. Murray was re-elected President, the Vice-Presidency going to the Rev. H. Cummings. The Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. A. Bellamy, F.R.M.S., was re-elected, as was also the Hon. Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. F. Burnett, F.C.S. The other members of the Committee are Messrs. J. R. F. Turner, H. Thompson, M.R.C.S., C. S. Millard, W. J. Jeeves, and Dr. R. H. H. Sankey.

Selections of stamps submitted by Messrs. Hilckes, Morley, Alf. Smith, and others, were on the table. The next meeting will take place on February 12th.—J. F. B.

THE MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE fourth meeting of the Session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel, on Friday, November 9th, 1894, present 19 members, owing to the unavoidable absence of President and Vice-President, Mr. Abbott took the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary read the correspondence. Mr. Pellew was elected a member. Mr. W. W. Munn read the first portion of his observations upon the adhesives of the United States, pointing out, *inter alia*, the means by which the originals could be distinguished from the reprints, he also referred to the recent discovery of the so-called provisional of the Confederate States, viz.: The United States 3c. 1861 issue, perf. 12, surcharged U.S.A. Mr. Munn pointed out that the stamp so surcharged was mentioned as being on the original envelopes, postmarked February to May, 1861, where is the particular 3c. stamp (perf. 12) was not issued according to Tiffany until the 14th August, 1861. Several fine collections of the U.S. were exhibited.

The fifth meeting of the Session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel, on Friday, November 23rd, 1894, present 14 members. Vice-President in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Committee reported upon the desirability of forming a Federation of the leading Provincial Societies for the purpose of exchange. Mr. Duerst on behalf of the Subcommittee, read the draft of the suggested rules. These rules were considered, revised, and adopted.

Resolved that the other Societies be approached with a view to ascertaining their views on the matter. Mr. Munn read the continuation of his paper on the adhesives of the United States, for which he received a hearty vote of thanks.—W. DORNING BECKTON, Hon. Sec., Daisy Bank, Swinton Park, Manchester.

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Published every alternate Saturday at 64, Cheapside, E.C.

No. 10.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1895.

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Published every alternate Saturday.

No. 10.—Vol. I. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1895. ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society and City of London Philatelic Club.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	81
Generalism	81
Philately at Home	82
City of London Philatelic Club	83
Between Ourselves	84
Secret Marks of Hamburg	85
Note on the St. Andrew's Cross	85
Our Black List	86
Philately Abroad	87
Our Forum	87
Answers to Correspondents	88

Philatelic Personalities.

LITTLE Queen Wilhelmina of Holland, whom every loyal Dutchman loves quite as ardently as his Schnapps, is one of those "curious individuals" (*vide* the Daily Press) who "make a hobby of sticking old stamps in a book." Time was when the Queenlet of the Dutch collected stamps much in the fashion of a schoolboy—for their pretty designs and gay variety of colour. But now she has changed all that. The royal fraulein is becoming quite a keen philatelist, with an eye for watermarks and perforations and all the other *minutiae* of the cult.

MR. DOUGLAS GARTH, who served the London Philatelic Society so long as Hon. Secretary, is to have his reward at the Society's Annual Dinner, on February 26th, when there will be a presentation to the Ex-Hon. Sec., the said presentation to take the shape (*vide* the *London Philatelist*) of "a handsome and lasting memento of the appreciation of his fellow members."

MR. L. LEVISON is on his way to this country—may be in London, in fact, ere these lines meet the eye of the reader. After a short stay here he will proceed to Germany. The ostensible object of his trip is the settlement of business affairs, but it is not unlikely that he will also arrange for the sale of his superb collection, which is at present immured in the deepest dungeon of a New York safe deposit.

This particular collection has been more talked about within the last year than any other, except, of course, the 10,000-pounder formed by Mr. M. P. Castle. Statements that "the Levison collection will be shortly sold by Messrs. So-and-So" have been circulated and denied in a most confusing way. Rumours of war could not be more conflicting. For our part, we do not think Mr. Levison is anxious to sell. Up to within a month of date he has been buying everything

good that came within his reach, which is not the way of a man "tired of philately." His purchases in one American city during December last amounted to nearly £2,000; and the stamps so purchased have just been deposited with Mr. Levison's other treasures in New York.

PHILATELY finds many votaries among millionaires of every nationality. Baron Hirsch, rightly or wrongly, is suspected of having accumulated a very respectable collection; Mr. Alfred de Rothschild has but recently deserted the "sticky science" on account of the pressure of other affairs, and until he became engrossed in yacht-racing (with the Prince of Wales for his opponent), Mr. George Jay Gould was evidently attached to his stamp albums. His brother, too, Mr. Edwin Gould, used at one time to sink a large proportion of his princely pocket-money in philately.

MR. C. J. PHILLIPS on his arrival in New York, in the early days of the year, was made much of by local philatelists, and handsomely "dined" by the National Philatelic Society, his cicerone on this occasion being Mr. H. L. Calman.

MR. PHILLIPS had brought with him one volume of the Castle Collection—that containing Mr. Castle's incomparable Tasmanians. The book as it passed from hand to hand around the dinner table evoked a running chorus of admiration. Of course, Mr. Phillips had to "talk" to the genial New Yorkers. And what he said was brief and business-like—characteristic of the man—and dealt chiefly with the troubles of a transatlantic voyager.

Each guest at the Phillips dinner, by the way, received as a souvenir of the occasion a handsome and unique menu card, appropriately inscribed. In the centre of the card was hinged a Columbian stamp, on the back of which was printed, in diamond type, the menu of the dinner.

Generalism.

BY JOS. F. BURNETT, F.C.S.

"SPECIALISM is now the philatelic order of the day. Probably nine stamp collectors out of every ten are specially interested in the issue of some one country or group of countries." Such are the words heading a circular with which I fancy most of the readers of the "S. C. F." are familiar. Now, while I cannot gainsay the truth of this statement, it certainly startles one to think that "nine out of ten" of us are specialists. Why? I for one prefer to be a generalist; and I will try to show that that almost defunct specimen, the general collector, has arguments on his side that seem to me unassailable. Let it be distinctly understood that I do not underrate the impetus given to philatelic study by specialism; nor would I detract at all from the honour

given to some of our specialists for the magnificent work which they have done and given to the world for the benefit of their less experienced brethren. Dark points have been cleared up, and obscure differences made plain, as the result of their labours, and, but for these things, many of us would still be wallowing in the "slough of despond" when we attempted the arrangement or re-arrangement of some intricate set of stamps.

Now, then, for the objections urged against general collecting. (Most of these have been urged against myself, at one time and another, by my friends).

1. "You cannot collect everything; or, at least if you try to you will never approach completion." To this I say, that neither can the specialist, unless his ambition is so small that he is content with a very meagre group. Suppose he takes Great Britain: when is he going to complete such things as plates of hair lines ninepenny, and secret mark threepenny? Or British Guiana, or Mauritius, or, indeed, any Australian Colony. Where are the rarities to come from, unless, indeed, the specialist is a veritable Croesus?

2. "The general collector is obliged to lumber up his album with all sorts of rubbish, gumbugs, and so forth." This I deny. My method of collecting Seebeckized States has been previously indicated in the "S. C. F." and it is possible, by a little judicious weeding, to keep a representative show of a great many countries, and yet not lumber oneself up unnecessarily. Indian States (native) for instance. I have allotted one page in my album to these, and this is quite sufficient to show the curious illegible designs, which are not without their interest, but not enough to help to enrich the impecunious Rajah.

3. "The general collector cannot know much about his stamps, seeing that he collects so much that he cannot, in the nature of things, understand them all." My reply is, that the generalist has in the lapse of a few years, if he has given his mind to stamp collecting at all, amassed a collection which I may call a foundation. He has a few specimens from most countries in the world, and these will furnish him with plenty of material for study, if he will patiently read the philatelic works and journals which come his way, and compare the remarks of one and another with the stamps in his collection, and if he does this, he will soon be able to add his tit-bit of information at society discussions or private conversations.

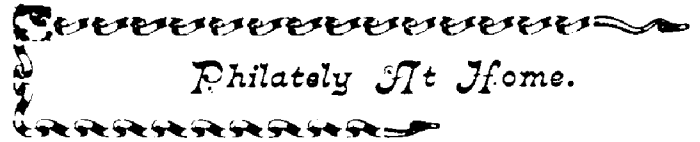
Next, let us look at the pleasures of generalism. I take it that the pleasures of philately are twofold, those of acquisition and those of possession. The pleasures of acquisition can never, as long as life lasts, come to an end in the case of the generalist. He stands a better chance of continuing his enjoyment in this respect than the specialist. Why, we are told of more than one instance of specialists so far losing their interest in their collection when it has become next to impossible to add desiderata to them, that they have sent them to the nearest auction room or firm of stamp dealers! When the generalist finds this state of things obtain in one place, he simply turns his thoughts and attention to fresh fields and pastures new, and if he follows these lines I fail to see why the pleasures of acquisition should so overcome the pleasures of possession that these last so far fall into insignificance that the possessor cares nothing about his treasures.

Before turning for a moment to the pleasures of possession, I ought to say that in acquiring specimens, no man stands a better chance than the generalist, *if he only takes the trouble to get an all round knowledge*. As one and another of my friends has given up this, and broken up that, I have enriched my own pages with many a stamp at basement prices, and, in some cases, have picked up good bargains besides.

With regard to the joys of possession, I can certainly say that I am not tired of those pages which are practically full, and though I am a generalist, there is no law to prevent me leaving one group of countries for a while out of the reckoning while I devote extra attention to what I may fancy for a time. My plea is that I can get as much pleasure out of my general collection of some five thousand (in which I have, or mean to try to get, all important varieties, especially those which mark an epoch in the stamp issues of any State), as the

specialist can by hunting for minor varieties, misprints, errors, &c., &c., &c.

Lastly, one gratification I have to which the specialist is a stranger. A non-philatelic friend sometimes asks me to show him my collection, and the invariable comment is one of surprise that there are so many stamps in the world, and so many countries issuing them. One of these said to me the other day, on seeing stamps of Tonga, British East Africa, Congo, etc., "Why the issue of postage stamps, and the presence of post offices, will soon be taken as the most important evidence that such and such a territory of savages has joined the ranks of civilization!"



THE STAMPS OF STRAITS SETTLEMENTS SURCHARGED FOR THE PROTECTED STATES.*

MR. WILLIAM BROWN'S promised work on the Stamps of the Straits Settlements is to hand. More than ordinary patience must have been exercised in the compilation of this work. It would be difficult to name a set of surcharges more difficult to tackle and describe than the surcharged issues for these protected States, and the more one studies them the deeper the interest becomes. The "get up" of Mr. Brown's book is all that its preliminary notices promised, but I think, considering the stoutness of the paper used, a firmer cover would have been more desirable.

The illustrations of surcharges are wonderfully distinct and easy to compare with the original stamps.

But the arrangement of the book I consider open to criticism—I mean as regards the sequence of the various issues. Had the natural chronological order been followed it would have been a decided improvement.

As to the contents of the book, regarded philatelically, there are one or two things to which attention may reasonably be drawn. To commence with Bangkok, the first stamp, the 32c. on 2a. Indian, I believe to be a forged "B." I saw a number of these about a few years ago, and this seems to be similar for the following reasons:—First of all, the "B" appears to me to be of the bad type; secondly, they are all on stamps surcharged for the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. The bank had a supply of these stamps still in use to years ago (I received them on letters); but why should they be surcharged for use in Bangkok? Lastly, it is worth noting that the obliteration is the Singapore one.

Then as to Johor. No. 1, a so-called surcharge, is, in my opinion, merely a postmark. For confirmation of this observe the next type. The postmark here is also a crescent and star, but, of course, another variety. No. 8, in the Johor section, I have known for six or seven years, having sold a copy to a dealer and repurchased it three years ago, when it was again sold to Mons. Ferrary by our publishers. No. 16, Johor, I look upon with grave doubts, the 2 cents brown having been out of issue before any stamps were surcharged for use in Johor. No. 30 I also look upon with suspicion. It bears the Singapore postmark.

In Negri Sembilan, the surcharge No. 2 must be merely the local postmark of that State. The other postmark on the same stamp is an old type usually seen on the early issues of Straits-Settlements.

Regarding Perak, and with special reference to page 40, it may be of interest to point out that the surcharge "S.F.P." signifies "Singapore Free Press." As to Nos. 27 and 53, I rather wonder at Mr. Brown including in his list stamps which have been pronounced very doubtful (and with good reason!) by eminent authorities. A brief note should be sufficient for these articles of uncertain character.

Apart from the few points here mentioned, I must congratulate Mr. William Brown upon the production of a very creditable and painstaking work. W. B. K.

*Post free 15/- from HARRY HILCKES & Co, Ltd., 64 Cheapside, London, E.C.

A WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DISCOVERY.

OF the 4 pence, first issue, West Australia, a specimen on original, has been shown us by Mr. M. Z. Kuttner, bearing postmarks, Perth, (W. Australia) 20, Aug. 1855; and receiving-office postmark, 25, Oct. 1855. Oceania, page 142, says:—The four values were issued in the following order: Two Pence and Six Pence 1855; Four-Pence and One Shilling 1858.

TO SHUT OUT THE BACKSLIDERS.

A REAL want has been filled by the formation of a Society of Exchange Club Secretaries, for mutual protection. If this proves to be a Protection Society which will really *protect*, it should be welcomed with open arms. Something in the nature of concerted action has long been wanted to prevent an undesirable person excluded from one Society creeping into others, where his presence will prove equally distasteful. The new body, so far, is only in the preparation stage, but we hope in our next issue to be able to give definite news of its successful flotation.

A WELL-TRIED STAMP.

THE fivepenny stamp of New South Wales has remained unchanged for a longer period than any other adhesive postage stamp. The design, shape, and colour are practically the same as when issued in 1854. The penny embossed envelope stamp of Great Britain is still older. It was produced in 1841 to replace the clumsy Mulready design, and, with the exception of slight, almost microscopic, alterations of type, has remained in constant use for the past fifty-three years.

Mr. WALTER MORLEY'S PRICE LIST.

THE perusal of Mr. Walter Morley's new price list of English Stamps will convince all those who do not believe in the rapid rise in the values of British Stamps. Our publishers were laughed at for the high prices quoted in their "Catalogue"; and perhaps a few persons will still remain unbelievers, despite the fact that the prices quoted by Mr. Walter Morley are in many cases still higher than our publisher's figures. But they laugh best who laugh last, in philately as in all things else.

Mr. Morley's book is not confined to postage stamps, but embraces everything in the way of English stamps, postal and fiscal, including hat tax stamps, playing card stamps, patent medicine stamps, and so on, *ad infinitum*. Indeed, only 16 of the 132 pages the book contains are devoted to postage stamps. It goes without saying that it needed Mr. Morley's great knowledge of English fiscals to make the compilation of such a list as this possible. His collection of these labels is certainly one of the finest in existence, and we believe every stamp priced in the book before us is absolutely in Mr. Morley's possession. As to the prices, we can say nothing, but willingly defer to the author's superior knowledge and judgment.

The charge for the price-list is only one shilling; at which price Mr. Morley, we fear, must incur a heavy loss upon its publication. Our Tottenham colleague knows his own business best, but we should think every purchaser of this price-list would just as soon pay half-a-crown for it were that the price demanded.

To Our Contemporaries.

WE desire to exchange regularly with every philatelic journal at home or abroad. Will all those editors who have not yet done so kindly send *two* copies of their publications, and we shall be pleased to reciprocate.

THE original and much-lamented (?) Jay Gould was not a philatelist. So busy was he in money-making that he had scarcely time to eat his meals, let alone collect stamps. So it was also with the original Vanderbilts and Astors, but it is remarkable to what an extent philately is favoured by the descendants of these hard-headed money-getters.

Under Bennett's Clock.

IT is most gratifying for us to announce that the Liverpool Society have adopted the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY as their official organ. There seems to be no doubt that the "S.C.F." was wanted by collectors since every post brings us not only subscriptions by the dozen but our readers go out of their way to write us letters expressing their entire approval of our policy.

ENGLISH ALBUM.—This is now in the hands of the binder and will be ready in a few days. All orders to hand by 15th February will be executed at the advertised price, 7/6 and 3/6 respectfully; after that, we shall be obliged, owing to the very great cost of production, to raise our price to 10/6 and 4/6 respectfully, with this reserve, that if not less than six copies are ordered, we will allow the usual trade discount of 25 per cent. We are sorry we have to raise our price, but the publishing of an album, laid out on entirely new lines, is a most difficult thing to estimate for beforehand, the increase in price is therefore unavoidable.

OUR PRIZE SCHEME.—Numerous readers have expressed their wish to see the date of our Prize Competition postponed, as so many have sent out specimen copies to the Colonies and are afraid replies will not come to hand in time. We wish to make this a thoroughly successful Competition, and, as a matter of fact, so far as we can gauge now, it will be so, we have, therefore, decided that the final date for receiving Competition Forms will be the 1st June. Anyone wishing to receive Specimen Copies and Competition Forms may have them, carriage paid, on receipt of postcard.

HARRY HILCKES.

City of London Philatelic Club.

THREE new members have been elected, four more applications have since come to hand. The large collection of Mr. Asher Levy and H. Marks, were shown at some of the more recent meetings, and another member of the Club has promised to exhibit his collection at an early date when due notice will be given to the members.

The *London Philatelist* for January is now out; members desirous to continue with the New Volume can obtain same at the reduced price of 4d. per copy on application to the Secretary, 64, Cheapside, E.C.

EXCHANGE PACKET.

THE January Packet has gone on its round to 30 members. It will no doubt be necessary to divide the Packet in the near future, but members should bear in mind that no rubbish should be put on the sheets. The better the class of stamps the bigger the takings.

The December Packet has just been returned and account will be in the hands of members by this time.

HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

THE Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, Monthly Journal, World's Exchange and The Million, The Stamp News, and The Stamp News Annual for 1895.

From the Continent: The Union Postage and Revue Philatelique de Belgique.

From the United States: The Eastern Philatelist, Filatelic Facts and Fallacies, The American Journal of Philately, and Messrs. Scott and Co.'s New Catalogue.

From Canada: The Dominion Philatelist.
Gifts of Books and Papers for the Library should be sent to MR. C. FORBES, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

All Papers and Books received are laid on the table for the use of the Members at our Meetings every Thursday.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 9, 1895.

. . Between Ourselves . .

ADMIRABLY printed and bound, and in every way the ideal catalogue of American stamps is the new edition of the world famous catalogue of the Scott Stamp and Coin Company, of New York. We do not think, however, that the prices quoted for English Colonials reflect the true state of the English market, though in some cases the values are recorded with admirable fidelity. Chiefly notable in the new "Scott" is an innovation in respect to English stamps. The plate numbers are actually priced! So much for the cheap ridicule which some of the juvenile scribes attached to the American Philatelic Press have been pouring out upon the devoted head of the collector of plate numbers. By the way, it will gladden the hearts of our publishers to notice that Messrs. Scott have resorted pretty freely to the "Catalogue of English Adhesives" in fixing their English prices. What will the "Summer Critic" say when he sees it? *Great Scott!* possibly.

* * *

THERE cannot be the slightest doubt that our remarks in No. 5, page 40, have echoed the opinion of philatelists all over the world, but chiefly on the Continent. The reasons against such an Exhibition are of course not to be passed over as being the result of prejudice.

- No one likes to expose his treasures to the fierce light of the sun for any length of time.
- The Committee in chief of the Industry Exhibition at Leipzig may not have an idea of the magnitude and extent of Philately and, therefore, may easily underestimate their responsibilities.
- Some very large collectors think that to make an International Philatelic Exhibition a part of another big Exhibition, as it was originally proposed, would be sure to lessen the interest of the general public in the Postage Stamp part, and they, therefore, urge that to make such an Exhibition a complete success it should be independent in every respect, and endeavours should be made to obtain one of the very large Municipal Buildings in Leipzig free of cost.

Now, as regards foreign assistance, a most sensible proposal has been made. If such an Exhibition is really to be a success in every way it should not be over-loaded. No common rubbish should be admitted, and this is only possible

if every country which is likely to join, forms through their society an advance committee. This would work as follows:—

The committee in Leipzig should communicate with philatelists of note in say London, Paris, Vienna, New York, Melbourne, etc., asking them to form a local committee and submit proposals as to what exhibits they can obtain. Each of these local committees to send a delegate to the Exhibition, who would thus represent the interests of every country, and could at the same time act as a kind of agent for his exhibitors, be it for the sale of any exhibit or other enquiries. This would, in the first place, increase the interest of foreign exhibitors, who would know that their stamps were in safe hands; and, at the same time, a most impartial Board would be created which could act as a Prize Committee, and should be put in such a position to offer substantial prizes for best exhibits. If the Preparation Committee in Leipzig is of a substantial kind, there is no doubt that a large guarantee would be subscribed almost immediately. Of course the insurance question has to be fully considered, and the *Illustrated Briefmarken Journal*, from whose pages we glean these particulars, has promised further details in a later number.

We have communicated with the originators of this idea, and shall be pleased to answer any enquiries that our readers may make with regard to this Exhibition. It should not be forgotten that Leipzig is the most interesting town from a philatelic point of view. In the first place, one of the oldest Continental firms of stamp dealers is established there. Undoubtedly the first albums ever published were printed in Leipzig. The technical facilities which Leipzig offers to all those who wish to perfect their knowledge of the production of stamps, never mind by what process, are not surpassed by any other town, and, if this Exhibition comes to pass, we think we can promise that facilities will be offered to visitors to watch the manufacture of stamps from the very first stage to the last.

* * *

THERE seems to be not the slightest doubt that Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's sale on 30th and 31st insts. were, in more ways than one, the sensation of the season. Long before the advertised time the room began to fill, and at 6 o'clock not a chair was to be had. We counted at one time 119 philatelists, all eager for bargains; but everyone was disappointed, since prices realised were, in nearly every case, records. Every philatelist of note was present, and the only well-known face we missed was that of Mr. Chas. J. Phillips, who is reported to be on the return journey from New York after a most successful trip through the States. We have made special endeavours to report the sale in this issue, and, running through the figures, those who did not attend will get an idea how fierce the competition was for the magnificent lots put up. It is an open secret that the collection which was thus broken was in the market some time ago for £1500. One dealer offered £850 for same; but the price realised at auction was £2600. There cannot be the slightest doubt that rare stamps in superb condition will command almost any price; and the more people begin to realise that defective copies are a bad investment, the better we shall be able to get at the true value of stamps.

* * *

NEARLY every Philatelic paper of note on the Continent has tried to solve the question of examining stamps through a central bureau. Of course this idea is as "old as the hills;" for years past many schemes have been brought forward, but all or nearly all are equally impracticable. To our mind the idea of the London Society photographing rare specimens, and testifying to their genuineness by a specially signed voucher, cannot be surpassed, because in this instance no mark is placed on the stamp, and still the copy is easily to be recognised by means of the registered photo; but the charge necessitated through the extra labour (2s. 6d. per stamp) is, of course, impracticable in moderately rare stamps, worth, say 20s. and under. From what we can gather from the discussion as it stands at present, we fail to see how the most serious objection to the present system can be over-

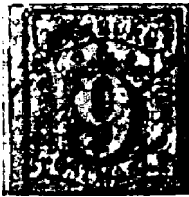
come: we mean the marking of specimens by means of india-rubber stamps. Accepting this as an unavoidable evil, a correspondent in the *I.B.J.* suggests the following:—"A central office to be created, which has on its books the names of specialists for every particular country. Collectors having a doubtful stamp to send same to the secretary of the society to which they belong, such secretary to collect all these various specimens once a week, and to send same to the Central Bureau. There they would be classified according to countries, and sent to the various specialists in one parcel, who would return them again in one parcel, thus saving a great deal of postage and unnecessary clerical labour. The fee for such examination to be nominal." The idea is a crude one no doubt, but could be developed into something useful. One great advantage appears to us in this scheme, and that is this: If every collector who buys a doubtful stamp is obliged, on submitting same to the bureau, to disclose the name of the seller, it would very soon become apparent through the frequent occurrence of certain names who was the prime mover in any particular swindle, and thus steps could be taken with the least possible delay. The fee could be very small, since the cost of postage is reduced to a minimum by combining various lots. We should think a 1s. fee would be sufficient as an all round price. Perhaps our readers could suggest something better?

The Secret Marks of the Stamps of Hamburg.

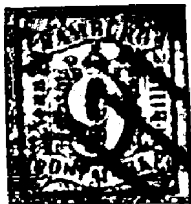
Translated from the Dresden *Philatelist* with special permission by HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 77.)

So far as regards secret marks, we now append photographs of two genuine stamps with bar postmarks. The first, *i.e.*, the thin lines are only found on the few values of the first issue, notably the 9 schilling and the 7 schilling. The thicker lines are also found on the second issue, sometimes in blue, but more often in black.



We add an illustration of a fairly well executed forgery which would deceive a good many. Of course the measurements of distance between the bars are different. The above illustration being an *exact* reproduction they can be used as test stamps in case of need.



Forged Postmark.

We also add photograph of a postmark, which has never been used for postmarking purposes. When in 1836 the Post Office in Hamburg ceased to exist as such, and the remainders were sold to a Hamburg dealer, of "Heligoland Reprints fame," he asked for obliteration dies, but was told that he could not obtain the proper dies; but on his repeatedly asking for such a die, an old Prussian one was handed to him, used by the Prussian Post Office at the time when they had a separate post-office. This die

the Hamburg dealer used to obliterate part of the remainders in the entire sheet; therefore such obliterated copies are worthless, as they bear practically a forged postmark.



Forged Postmark.

(With 2 small stars before and after "Hamburg.")

As far as I am aware no copy has been found on entire letter obliterated with this postmark, and in spite of the fact that the Hamburg dealer strongly maintains that this postmark was used by the Hamburg Government, I shall still adhere to my opinion that it is a spurious one, unless absolute proofs are brought to light showing the contrary. I have seen an envelope postmarked with the ordinary Hamburg round postmark, and on the back of the letter this star postmark was impressed, *but dated one day later than the postmark obliterating the stamp.* This is the explanation. The letter in question was addressed to a town in Prussia, and under the regulations then in vogue in Hamburg such letter should have been franked with the Prussian stamp and posted at the Prussian Post Office, instead of which the lazy office boy did not sort his letters properly, and dropped this letter into the town post office, stamping it with the ordinary Hamburg stamp. When sorting, this letter was put aside by the Hamburg officials and handed over to the Prussian Post Office next morning, when it was duly marked with the day's obliteration stamp and then forwarded to its destination, treating the letter as unpaid. I therefore warn against this obliteration mark as a most dangerous one. Stamps bearing this postmark are almost daily sold by nearly every London dealer.

THE END.

** We shall begin in our next Number an Article on the Minor Varieties of the Stamps of the United States, profusely illustrated.—Eds.

A Note on the St. Andrew's Cross

FOUND SURCHARGED (?) ON THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE

ROMAN STATES.

SOME few months since a friend and well-known collector requested us to make some enquiry and research into the history, character and use of a cross often found over-printed or surcharged on the labels forming the first series issued by the Postal Administrators of the States of the Church, sometimes termed the Papal or Roman States. Having friends in high positions at the Papal See, and some of whom moreover were connected with the Postal Department of the Papacy for the whole of its independent duration, we lost no time in instituting enquiries, which led up to a satisfactory solution of the mystery.

We now think that the surcharged labels are deserving of far more attention at the hands of collectors than they have hitherto received; in fact those who knew of such varieties seem to have either looked upon the strange cross as a species of cancellation, or as bogus surcharges, while the great majority of philatelists were entirely ignorant of their existence.

It is to finally dispel all ignorance of the matter that we now proceed to give as adequate and interesting account as possible of this surcharge, its history and use. For years past they have been known to, and specialized by, Italian collectors, but beyond being catalogued by a few Continental dealers and various societies, they were utterly ignored. Nothing up to the present has appeared in English; and

only one German philatelist, Herr J. H. Anheisser, of Dusseldorf, has studied them. His paper, which was published in, or perhaps translated into French, is remarkable for the strange theories advanced therein as to the use of the Cross, based upon copies of letters franked by these overprinted stamps, either known to him or in his possession. We shall have occasion in the course of this brief paper to notice and correct Herr Anheisser's errors of deduction.

It has been thought by Lindenberg, as expressed in his work on the Papal States Stamps, and by Senf Bros., or their editor, in their catalogue, that the "St. Andrew's Cross" were indicative of the extension of the postal administration of the Papal States to the working of the provisional posts in Romagna and Ferrara respectively in 1859. It must be understood that Romagna was a member of the States of the Church and that following the success of King Victor Emmanuel and his Imperial ally, Napoleon III, in their brief struggle with the Austrian Empire, Provisional Governments were rapidly constituted for the various Duchies and States, which rejected and abolished the existing régimes, and that the particular Provisional Authorities of Romagna issued their series of postage stamps on Sept. 1st, 1859. But, as we shall show, the "Cross" was employed as early as in 1852 in all parts of the Holy Dominions, and as Romagna is but sparsely populated and the population not over brilliant in intellect, very little postal work was ever performed there. No wonder, therefore, at either the Provisionals of 1859-60 being rare used or that letters with "Crossed" stamps are likewise uncommon. Herr Anheisser not inaptly remarks, "Longtemps avant que cette province (Romagna) se fut séparée, les timbres à croix avaient cessé de circuler ils n'ont donc certainement pas été émis par le gouvernement proussier."

The fact that this Cross was employed so early as April, 1852, and that its employment ceased in October, 1855, disposes at once of any idea on the part of different authorities that such an overprint was provisional, as no provisional stamp of any kind appeared in Italy till 1859.

(To be continued.)

Our Black List.

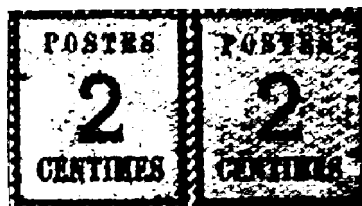
ALSACE LORRAINE, INVERTED NET.

WE have been asked times out of number to explain the difference between the genuine inverted nets and the forgeries, which are sold even in this country, by so-called respectable dealers, as "reprints." This is what our publishers say in their well-known Catalogue of Reprints:—

"This forgery was printed in 1885 by the German Imperial printing-office, in consequence of an order from a Hamburg dealer, but the plates had to be entirely reset. The easiest way to distinguish these facsimiles from the originals is by measuring the distance of the "P" in Postes from the left border, which is at least 3 mil. in the original, but only 2½ in the forgeries."

In addition to this the network in the forgeries is far too well executed owing to the newness of the plate. The word "Postes" is much longer in the forgeries being 12½mm. against 12mm. in the originals.

We append photographic illustration and trust that this will help to put a stop to this fraud once and for all.



GENUINE.
Perf. 14.

FORGERY.
Perf. 13½ by 14½.

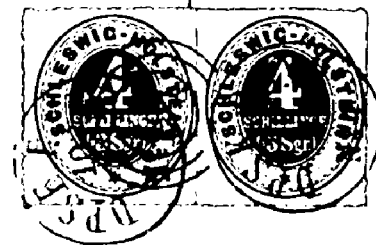
The Perforation is also a very good test, since the genuine stamps are perf. 14 all round, whereas the forgery measures as near as possible 13½ by 14½.

It may be of interest to our readers to know that these stamps—we mean the forgeries—are included in the wholesale list of a member of the Philatelic Protection Association.

SCHLESWIC HOLSTEIN 4 Schillinga brown used.

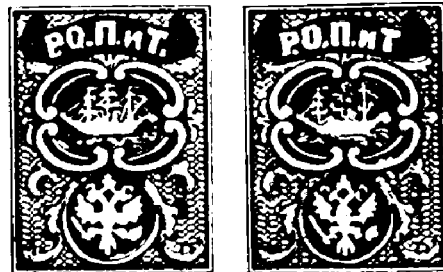
AGAIN we must warn our readers against a forged postmark of a most dangerous character. It is well known that the above stamp is fairly common in the unused state, but excessively rare if postmarked.

To supply this evident want the forger has very considerably procured a forged postmark which closely resembles the genuine article. He has even gone so far as to make two different obliteration marks, one with number 191 in centre of three rings, and the other representing the real postmark then in use (Danish). He has, however, chiefly confined his endeavours to pairs, which show both marks, the Danish, so far as it is yet known, invariably bearing the date 10/3. We append photographic reproduction of the spurious make which speaks for itself.



RUSSIAN LEVANT.

A most dangerous forgery, although of ancient date, has recently been foisted upon the philatelic public. This is similar to the value mentioned in our number 7, only the brown border is the same in every stamp on the plate, the design, which appears white, being different in every respect.



GENUINE.

FORGERY.

The chief distinctive mark is a little defect in the right bottom part of the border surrounding the ship, some of the white lines protruding into the brown one; the network also is not very carefully executed, the little loops forming the jointure in the network appearing as dots only, whereas in the original this part is most carefully executed.—I.B.7.

PORTUGAL 5 REIS, BROWN—Straight Hair.

WHENEVER the faker is unable to reproduce a good stamp in its entirety, he does the next best thing, and "construct" same from two different stamps. Thus inverted heads have been created by erasing the middle out of one stamp and inserting, inverted, of course the head from another copy. A similar dodge is now tried with the rare 5 reis, of 1855.—From a specimen of the curly hair issue, the head is carefully removed and replaced by a "straight hair" head from a 25 reis, stamp, the whole pasted on "bits of original" the postmark touched up and—there you are. Held up to the light, the swindle becomes at once apparent.

To Our Readers!

If you wish to help us, please show this copy to a brother collector. Remember, every new subscriber will help to enable us to give still better value for the money.

Philately Abroad.

KLEPTOMANIA IN PHILATELY.

FROM the *New York World* we glean a little story of an alleged theft, or attempted theft, from the establishment of Messrs. R. F. Albrecht & Co., in Nassau Street, New York. A Mr. Schedle went to Messrs. Albrecht's place, it seems, to look through a collection which had just been placed on sale. Mr. Albrecht, Junior, got down one of the books of the collection and sat opposite Schedle while he looked at it.

He noticed that Mr. Schedle went through the leaves until he came to the first valuable stamp, a 90-cent stamp of the United States of the issue of 1857, worth \$10. He saw that Schedle continued to turn the leaves, but kept his hand in the leaf with this stamp on it, as if he proposed to turn back and look at it again.

"Pretty soon," said young Mr. Albrecht, "I saw his hand slip out of the book and close and make a motion towards his vest pocket. I reached over and grabbed his hand, and at the same moment my father came out of his private office. He had seen the whole thing. When we opened Mr. Schedle's hand, the stamp fell to the floor."

Mr. Schedle says that his hand remaining on that leaf was a mere chance and when he drew his hand out, the stamp, which was loose, must have come out and fallen to the floor. But Mr. Albrecht says the stamp was not loose, and shows the place in the leaf where evidently the back of the stamp had been affixed to the page.

"So we've caught you," said Mr. Albrecht.

"What do you mean, sir?" said Mr. Schedle, flushing and growing angry.

"Why you have tried to steal that stamp," answered Mr. Albrecht. "Now all we want is for you to admit it."

"I'll do nothing of the sort," replied Mr. Schedle.

So they brought in a policeman and Mr. Schedle was arrested. Thanks to his influence, the police kindly suppressed the fact of the arrest, letting Mr. Schedle give a false name and letting him out on bail under that name.

He was arraigned by his proper name in the Tombs, and Lawyer Lippman was there to defend him. He asked that the charge be dismissed.

"Mr. Schedle is a man of wealth, of character and of good standing," said he. "These people are very suspicious. Such a charge against Mr. Schedle is ridiculous."

But the Justice, after hearing Mr. Albrecht and his son, held him for examination.

Mr. Schedle was afterwards seen at his place of business, but refused to talk about the case beyond saying: "It is very annoying for these over-suspicious stamp people to get me into this unpleasant position. Of course anybody who knows me will know that I am innocent."

THE COREAN STAMPS.

The war between Japan and China has drawn the attention of philatelists to the Peninsular of Corea, which in 1882 issued two rather pretty-looking stamps; but how many know that only forty-seven letters bearing such stamps were actually forwarded by the Corean Post? At the end of two days, the Ministry then in power, suddenly ceased to exist, some of its members being murdered, the others flying from the country. How many of those forty-seven stamps were saved? And still, used Corean stamps are offered from Paris by the dozen!

A "FIND" OF 5 FRANC BELGIANS.

An unexpected discovery has been made at Malines of three sheets of 5 franc Belgian stamps, making in all 900 stamps. The stock of these stamps had become all but exhausted, and they were selling for 25fr. when new, 20fr. when obliterated with the round stamp, and from 8 to 10fr. when obliterated with the roller. On hearing of the discovery, a dealer in Brussels offered to purchase them all at 7fr. each, but the bargain was declined. A Parisian dealer offered 11fr.

each, and the Brussels dealer increased his offer to 12fr. but no decision has yet been come to. They will, it is said, be sold to the highest bidder.

ST. THOME AND PRINCIPE ISLANDS.

THE provisional stamps of 2½ reis, issued in 1892, were a speculative issue on part of the native postmaster. They were soon used up and no 2½ reis stamps were obtainable, (nor wanted we should think) till the present issue in brown colour were sent out.

This is the list of the only stamps then issued:—

2½ reis, green on 5 reis (heavy block type).
2½ .. black on 10 .. do.
2½ .. " on 20 .. do.
2½ .. " on 20 .. (thin type).

Nearly all these surcharges occur on very bad copies, in fact our correspondent states that he has never yet seen a good copy of the 20 reis, rose, nearly all copies having been damaged by water.

The postmaster has recently transferred his field of action to Lisbon, and no doubt he did not forget his surcharging outfit, since many hitherto unheard of varieties suddenly appear. These surcharges exist in all sorts of colors and on all sorts and conditions of values. Since the "modest" price of £2 to £3 is asked for these "Provisionals," few, we trust, will jump at the tempting offer.

Our Forum.

** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

PANTOMIME AND PHILATELY.

DEAR SIR.—It has truly been said the present is a generation of novelties, and it is about the latest philatelic novelty that I wish to send you a few lines.

The past year has been eventful in many ways. Articles in the daily papers, and particularly reports of the prices paid for rare stamps at auctions, have attracted considerable attention, with the natural result that philately has been widely discussed by those who a very short time ago did not know the meaning of the word, and fresh adherents have joined our ranks.

The most striking evidence in Manchester of the attention our hobby is at present commanding is to be found in the Pantomime at the Theatre Royal in that city. The theatre is amongst the most noted in England, and the staging of the annual pantomime is recognised to be second only to that of Drury Lane. In view of this, it was indeed a pleasure and surprise to see here for the first time

A PHILATELIC BALLET.

The stamps represented are those of our own country, including Adhesives, Envelopes, Postcards and Registered Envelopes. Each girl is attired in a different dress or uniform which is emblematical of an English Stamp, Envelope or Postcard, as the case may be. Take for instance the 2d. green and red of the present issue; the upper portion of the stamp, including the Queen's head, is enlarged so as to occupy nearly the whole of the lady's bodice, which is in green, while the label in red bearing the value is immediately below. For the Postcards and Registered Envelopes of various sizes, the girls appear like sandwich men, with a large representation of the card or envelope hanging over their shoulders, back and front. The stamps are presented in chronological order, commencing with the 1d. black. The general effect of the ballet is extremely good and much appreciated by the public.

In conclusion, I have only to add that I believe the management of the theatre does not claim a single philatelist,

and it would therefore seem that the production of this ballet is yet another "Sign of the Times."

Manchester, 4th February, 1895.

W.

THE "GUMBUG" QUESTION.

Dear Sirs,—In reference to the swindles, gumbugs as they call them (though the name is bad) such as Seebecks San Marino, Borneo & Co., I have seen no end of proposals and expressions of wishes published that something should be done to stop it; but very little ever comes of it.

I would suggest that Effingham House and the principal Societies of France, Germany, America, and other large centres, should agree upon which emissions should be vetoed; and which should appear upon a list published in each country, (in this country say in the organ of Effingham House).

Some would raise an objection to this at once, that it would be binding upon no one, etc., etc., and so no good, or that it would not deter the small collectors from buying the vetoed emissions, and so would do little good.

That is not my opinion. I believe if a list were published as suggested, that collectors would be only too glad to follow it, and that album makers would follow it too, (by omitting them). Dealers, who naturally look upon the matter from a business point of view, are quite aware that they run a great risk of losing their trade by encouraging these emissions, and would prefer in the long run to be without them.

I do not see that there are many conflicting interests. The dealers are the cause of the trouble (I take it); not the small collectors. What are they when you come to analyse them? Do they buy a petty set at 5/-, 10/- or 15/-? No, they buy the 1 cent to 5 cents at most.

So if these emissions were left to them (which I believe the circular would do), they would not be worth issuing and would soon be left off.

There would of course be some difficulty as to the issues which are made a little for use and very much for philatelists, but I would have rather too much on the list than too many.

I know the list would be binding upon nobody, but you must also remember that most collectors are willing.

Sutton, Surrey.

Yours, R. S. F.

AN UNFORTUNATE MISTAKE.

DEAR SIR,—I have always had a good opinion of your Journal, and now am most firmly convinced of the extensive circulation you enjoy.

I advertised last Saturday a packet of stamps, for which I asked a modest 1s. 1d., but the pleasant humour of your printer has rendered it 1d. sterling. The rush has been prodigious, the pennies have come in battalions, and I am still struggling with the herculean task of posting notices of regret. The postcards, requests for inspection before purchase, and other irregular applications are held over pending the dispatch of others. It is somewhat curious that very few persons enclose an extra 1d. for postage.

I send you 1s. for its correct insertion next time, but I think you should put it in twice as it is your error.

I send also 1s. 6d. for Catalogue of Reprints, and with best wishes to your Journal,

Remain, yours truly,

CHAS. J. SMITH.

Kingston Hill, 29th Jan., 1895.

ARGENTINE JUBILEE STAMPS.

DEAR SIRS,—On the 20th inst. I received a letter from a philatelic friend at Alexandria, Egypt, stating that he had picked up a quantity of these stamps cheap out there, which I might find useful for exchange purposes, and he enclosed a pair for my inspection.

On comparing them with my copies, I find they are forgeries, agreeing in every point with your note of the forgeries in No. 5 and 8, of your paper.

There are several other strong points of difference between the genuine and forged specimens, and I have given myself the interesting task of making a list of a dozen points for the guidance of collectors generally.

A copy of this list I enclose, which, if you deem of sufficient interest to your readers, perhaps you will insert in your next issue.

Allow me to express my appreciation of your Magazine which I consider just the thing needed.

Yours faithfully,

W. A. J.

Cardiff, Jan. 23rd, 1895.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN GENUINE AND FORGED ARGENTINE JUBILEE STAMPS.

Genuine.	Forged.
(1) 7 to 8 birds on sky, between two larger vessels.	(1) Five birds only.
(2) Bird on water at right side of and touching the stern water line of middle vessel.	(2) No bird.
(3) Accent over letter "U" in Republica.	(3) No accent.
(4) Two ropes appear on the space between main and foremasts of largest vessel.	(4) No ropes are to be seen.
(5) Two masts visible on smallest vessel.	(5) One only.
(6) Mizenmast distinctly visible on largest vessel.	(6) Only lower part visible.
(7) Distinct cross on pennon flying on largest vessel.	(7) No cross, but a line in centre only.
(8) Foremast towers above flag on largest vessel.	(8) Foremast does not project above flag.
(9) Watermark entire.	(9) Watermark only partial.
(10) Perforations 11½ gauge.	(10) Perforations gauge between 11½ and 12.
(11) Paper clear white.	(11) Paper tinted.
(12) Design clearly engraved.	(12) Design scratchy and rough, especially lettering.

Answers to Correspondents.

*** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

E. W. (London).—Your advertisement if not displayed, will always cost at the rate of 2d. a line. For further rates please refer to No. 5 page 38.

J. S.—You will see that very stupid mistake rectified in this number.

J. R. F. (Woodford).—The French lithograph 10c. as illustrated in our No. 5, no doubt exists with other postmarks, but we have not yet come across any other types. Your stamp no doubt is genuine, but may it not belong to the surface-printed issue? You might send it for inspection.

H. J. T. (W.C.).—Of course you are right and our correspondent is wrong. The Labuans have done duty as postage stamps, although W.E.W. may not as yet have come across any.

A. G. W. (S.W.).—Your stamps were returned on the 2nd instant with opinion attached.

READY ON 25th APRIL.

.. A COMPLETE ..
Priced Catalogue

— OF THE —

**Postal and Telegraph Adhesives
Of GREAT BRITAIN.**

Compiled with the assistance of—

Messrs. FRED A. PHILBRICK, Q.C., HASTINGS E. WRIGHT,
WALTER MORLEY, H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN,

PUBLISHED BY

HILCKES, KIRKPATRICK & Co.

64, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON.

Bound in Half Morocco,

INTERLEAVED,

.. Price, Post Free ..

4/6

A
 COMPLETE CATALOGUE
 OF THE
 POSTAL & TELEGRAPH ADHESIVES
 OF
 GREAT BRITAIN.

THE LINE-ENGRAVED SERIES.


1840-1855, PRINTED by MESSRS. PERKINS, BACON & Co.

THE ONE PENNY.

Abbreviation :

(S)=surcharged " Specimen."

UN- USED.	" S."	USED.	
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1840, May 1st (6th), 1d. black, wmk. , imperf.



Specimens showing the plate number (found only in top corner of the margin of the sheet) are of extreme rarity. Plates 1 and 2, approved April 27th, 1840, and 3, 5 to 8, registered later in that year, cannot otherwise be distinguished. (For V. R. stamp, see addenda).

1	With red Maltese Cross obliteration	5	0	0	2
2	„ black „ „ „ February 15th to September, 1841.				0 2
3	„ blue „ „ „				5 0
4	Impression in Grey (worn plate)	10	0		1 0
5	Wmk. inverted, red obliteration				7 6
6	„ „ black				7 6
7	Postmarked "Too Late" in red				10 0

(This stamp is known with the postmark Penny Post in script letters. This signifies that a letter meant for the General Post Office and franked with a Government stamp was dropped by mistake into one of the local pillar boxes, and forwarded by the old penny post, which collected the proper fee of 1d. on delivery. The stamp thus used had therefore no franking power, and copies with such a postmark are merely a curiosity, and of no philatelic value.)

COMPLETE CATALOGUE OF THE

(SIX PENCE).

434	Bright violet, issued Aug. and Sept., 1868	20 0	2 0
435	Violet, issued Sept. 25th, 1868, to April, 1869 ...	15 0	1 0
436	Wmk. inverted		2 9

Plate 7 being defective was not used.

PLATE 8, Violet. Approved Jan. 23rd, 1868.

437	Issued March 12th, 1869, to Nov., 1870	10 0 4	6 0 6
438	Imperforate	40 0	30 0

(In this and all subsequent plates the hyphen between six and pence is omitted.)

PLATE 9, Violet. Approved Feb. 20th, 1869.

439	Issued Aug. 3rd, 1870, to June, 1872	7 6 3	6 0 4
440	Imperforate	30 0	40 0

PLATE 10, Violet. Approved April 1st, 1869.

(A few sheets were printed from this plate for registration, but perforated specimens have yet to be discovered).



1872, large white letters in the corners, wmk. perf. 14.



PLATE 11, Dark Buff. Approved Jan. 5th, 1872.

441	Issued April 1st to Nov., 1872.....	10 0 4	0 2 0
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PLATE 11, Light Buff.

442	Issued June, 1872, to June, 1873	10 0 3	6 1 6
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PLATE 12, Light Buff. Approved April 22nd, 1872.

443	Issued Dec., 1872, to March, 1873	40 0 10	0 10 6
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ORDER FORM.

Messrs. HILCKES, KIRKPATRICK & CO.,

64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.

Please forward to Address at foot, one Copy of your Catalogue of Stamps of Great Britain. I enclose P.O. for 4/6.

Yours truly,

(Address) _____

Postage Stamp Albums,

Large Variety of English and Foreign from 1d. to £5.

DETAILED LISTS POST FREE.

SPECIAL LINE :

Large 4to, "UP-TO-DATE," 5/9 Post Free.

—❧ AUCTIONS. ❧—

Our Mr. H. attends every Sale held in London, and undertakes Commission at the following Rates :—

10⁰/₁₀₀ for Lots under £10.

5⁰/₁₀₀ " " at £10 and over.

This includes Examining, Reporting and Clearing.

STAMP · COLLECTORS' · ACCESSORIES.

"Universal" Duplicate Stock Books.

" " Stamp Mounts, with or without
Publisher's name.

" " Millimètre Measure.

" " Indiarubber Stamps.

"Ideal" Perforation Gauge.

etc., etc.

Special Descriptive List Free on Application.



THE STAMP

COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1895.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

- Class a**—Superb condition, if *unused* with gum, (mint state), if *used*, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.
- Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.
- Class c**—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post-marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, December 17, 1894.
Continued from page 4.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED			
		£	s.	d.	
b	Great Britain. 2d. blue, no lines, unused ..	..	1	2	0
b	Mauritius. post paid. 1d. early state ..	..	3	13	0
b	Mexico. half of 4 reales, red, on original ..	..	2	10	0
b	Quarter of 8 reales, black on brown, ditto..	..	2	8	0
c	Natal. 1/-, first issue ..	..	1	18	0
b	Newfoundland, 4d. orange-vermilion ..	..	1	14	0
b	6d. ditto ..	..	1	0	0
c	1/- ditto ..	..	5	5	0
b	New South Wales. Sydney 3d., two on originals, each ..	..	0	14	0
b	Sydney 3d., two on entire ..	..	1	6	0
c	5d. imperf., unused ..	..	1	18	0
b	Queensland. 2d. deep blue, imperf. ..	..	3	0	0
a	St. Helena. 1d. imperf., block of four, unused ..	..	1	12	0
b	Trinidad. 4d. slate-violet, imperf. ..	..	1	0	0
b	1/- blue-black, imperf. ..	..	1	3	0
a	Blue on blue, unused ..	..	1	0	0
a	Neutral, on blue, unused ..	..	0	16	0
b	Blue on white, strip of four ..	..	2	4	0
b	Rough litho, blue ..	..	1	1	0
b	United States (1869), 90c., unused ..	..	2	0	0

THE LONDON PHILATELIC COMPANY, December 18, 1894.

b	Barbadoes. ½d. green on white, imperf., unused ..	..	0	10	0
b	Canada. 3d. red, perf. 12 ..	..	0	7	0
a	10d., unused ..	..	2	2	0
a	12½c., watermarked ..	..	0	5	0
b	Cape of Good Hope. 6d., lilac on bleuté ..	..	0	8	0
b	Ceylon. 1/9, green, imperf. ..	..	1	8	0
b	4d. star, perf. ..	..	0	11	0
a	8d. brown, star, perf. ..	..	3	5	0
a	8d. yellow-brown, ditto ..	..	4	4	0
a	9d. brown, ditto, unused ..	..	0	15	0
b	½d. C.C., imperf., unused ..	..	0	16	0
a	5d. violet-brown, C.C. ..	..	1	0	0
b	8c. orange, C.C., perf. 12½ by 14, vert. pair, unused ..	..	1	18	0
b	Postal Commission, 3c., rose, U in cents, unused ..	..	0	11	0
b	Another, lilac-rose, used ..	..	0	12	0
b	Great Britain. 2/- red-brown ..	..	1	12	0
b	1d. red-brown on blue, perf. diagonally, on entire ..	..	1	5	0
b	6d. lilac on blue, on original ..	..	1	18	0
b	1/-, small letters, on blue paper ..	..	0	12	0
b	£5 orange ..	..	2	0	0
c	6d. lilac, emblems, plate 6, unused ..	..	1	5	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.			
		£	s.	d.	
b	Hong Kong. 5 dollars on 10, brown on red ..	..	0	14	0
a	Ionian Islands. blue, with Franco postmark ..	..	0	12	0
b	Levant. 6k. blue, large rect., unused ..	..	0	19	0
a	Mexico. ½r. black on buff, Gothic surcharge ..	..	4	17	6
b	1r. blue, ditto ..	..	0	14	0
a	8r. green on buff, ditto ..	..	3	3	0
b	Naples. 50g., unused ..	..	1	16	0
b	Nevis. 4d. rose on grey ..	..	2	5	0
b	6d. grey on grey, unused ..	..	2	2	0
c	Ditto, used ..	..	1	3	0
b	1/- green on grey ..	..	1	5	0
a	1/- green, perf. 15 ..	..	1	8	0
b	1/- yellow-green ..	..	2	2	0
a	Newfoundland. 6d. orange-red, two averaged ..	..	1	9	0
c	Ditto, two averaged ..	..	0	14	0
b	Nova Scotia. 1d. red-brown, unused ..	..	1	10	0
b	Ditto, two used, averaged ..	..	1	0	0
b	Oldenburg. 3gr. black on yellow ..	..	0	16	0
a	2gr. red on white ..	..	0	13	0
a	Pacific S. N. Co., 1r. blue on bluish, unused ..	..	0	19	0
a	Pahang. 2c. rose, the rare type ..	..	0	15	0
b	Perak. "One Cent. Perak," on 2c. rose, "One" inverted, unused ..	..	0	15	0
b	Russia. 7 roubles, no thunderbolt, unused ..	..	1	5	0
b	St. Lucia. 4d. blue, star, unused ..	..	1	2	0
a	6d. emerald, C.C. ..	..	0	13	0
b	St. Vincent. 4d. on 1/-, vermilion ..	..	3	3	0
a	Sicily. 50gr. red-brown ..	..	0	15	0
a	Sweden. 24sk. bco., two pairs, on original, each ..	..	2	5	0
a & b	Ditto, five on original, averaged ..	..	0	18	0
a	Trinidad. 1/- indigo, imperf. ..	..	1	0	0
b	Ditto, perf. ..	..	0	11	0
b	Turkey. 25 piastres, carmine ..	..	0	12	0
a	25 piastres, brown, unpaid ..	..	0	13	0
a	Two Sicilies. ½ grano, head inverted, used ..	..	0	9	0
b	United States (1851), 5c., imperf. ..	..	1	3	0
b	(1861) 30c. double grille ..	..	1	10	0
b	(1863) 90c. ..	..	1	14	0
b	Columbus, 1 dollar, two averaged ..	..	0	15	0
a	Ditto, 4 dollars, unused ..	..	0	19	0
a	Ditto, 5 dollars, unused ..	..	1	2	0
b	Western Australia (1862), 1/- green, unused ..	..	1	1	0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, December 19, 1894.

b	Mauritius. Greek border, 1d. scarlet, unused ..	..	4	12	0
b	Ditto, 2d. blue, used ..	..	0	19	0
b	Post Paid, 1d. early state, unused ..	..	7	10	0
c	Naples. 50gr., unused ..	..	1	4	0
a	Nevis. 6d. lilac grey ..	..	1	8	0
b	Newfoundland. 2d. vermilion, unused ..	..	0	14	0
c	4d. carmine ..	..	2	8	0
b	1/- carmine-orange ..	..	10	5	0
b	Oil Rivers. ½d. in red, with bar, on 2½d., strip of four, two lots averaged ..	..	1	10	0
a	Tuscany, 60cr. brown-red ..	..	8	5	0
b	United States (1869) 90c. ..	..	1	12	0
c	Victoria. Too late ..	..	0	12	0
b	5/- blue on yellow ..	..	3	7	6
a	Another ..	..	5	0	0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., January 1, 1895.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
b	Argentine (1864), 10c. green, imperf.	..	..	0 13 0
c	Canada, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green .. ..	..	..	1 9 0
b	Ceylon, 4d. rose, margins small ..	..	..	6 0 0
b	1/9 green, no margins .. ..	..	..	1 7 0
c	5d. brown, C.C. .. ..	..	..	0 16 0
b	Great Britain, 10d. octagonal, pair on original ..	..	..	0 14 0
b	5/- rose, plate 4, five copies fetched ..	..	..	0 17 0
a	India, 6as. long provisional, unused ..	..	..	0 14 0
c	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. early state ..	..	..	3 3 0
a	Nevis, 1/- pale green, lithograph, unused ..	..	..	1 6 0
a	Newfoundland, 6d. orange-vermilion ..	..	..	3 2 0
a	New South Wales, 2d. laureated, stars in corners, two on original, averaged ..	..	..	0 19 0
b	New Zealand, 1d., on blue paper ..	..	..	1 10 0
a	Queensland, 1/- lilac, current type, perf. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12, unused ..	..	..	1 12 0
b	South Australia, A.O. in black, on 1d., perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ..	..	..	1 18 0
b	C.O. in black on 4d., perf. 10 .. ..	..	..	1 1 0
c	D.R. in red on 6d. roulette .. ..	..	..	1 17 6
b	E in black on 4d., perf. 10 .. ..	..	..	0 10 0
b	E in blue on 1/- brown roulette .. ..	..	..	2 15 0
c	E.B. in red on long 2d. roulette .. ..	..	..	1 6 0
b	C.S. in black on 2/- .. ..	..	..	0 10 0
b	N.T. in black on small 2d. S.A. roulette ..	..	..	0 18 0
b	S.C. in red on long 2d. roulette .. ..	..	..	0 10 0
c	S.M. in red on 1d. roulette .. ..	..	..	1 10 0
b	S.T. in black on 2d., perf. 10, unused ..	..	..	0 15 0
c	B.M. in black on small 2d. S.A. roulette ..	..	..	1 1 0
b	Ditto on 2d., perf. 10 at top and sides, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ bottom ..	..	..	1 6 0
b	N.T. in black on small 2d. S.A. roulette ..	..	..	1 0 0
b	S. in black on small 2d., perf. x roulette ..	..	..	2 0 0
b	S.G. in red on long 2d. roulette .. ..	..	..	0 13 0
b	S.T. in black on 2d., perf. 10, surcharged twice ..	..	..	2 0 0
b	V in black on 2d., perf. 10 .. ..	..	..	1 12 0
b	I.S. ditto .. ..	..	..	2 2 0
b	Switzerland, Winterthur 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ r. .. ..	..	..	1 15 0
b	Tuscany, 2 soldi. .. ..	..	..	5 0 0
a	United States (1869), 90c. .. ..	..	..	2 0 0
b	Victoria, 2d., fine background, on original ..	..	..	1 16 0
a	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, perf. 15, unused ..	..	..	4 15 0
Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, January 10 and 11, 1895.				
b	British Bechuanaland, £1 black and lilac ..	..	..	1 6 0
b	British Gulana (1853), 4c. blue, pair, one with dot after "s" in "Postage" ..	..	..	2 4 0
a	(1860) 1c. brown-red .. ..	..	..	1 2 0
a	(1862) 1c., crossed ovals .. ..	..	..	7 7 0
b	(1862) 1c., grapes .. ..	..	..	7 10 0
a	(1862) 1c., pearls, unused .. ..	..	..	2 17 6
b	(1862) 2c., pearls, two averaged .. ..	..	..	4 2 0
c	(1862) Another, cut close .. ..	..	..	1 6 0
b	(1862) 4c., No. 22 on plate .. ..	..	..	6 0 0
b	(1882) 1c. on rose, ship, two without "Specimen" ..	..	..	1 1 0
a	British Honduras, 2c. small on 6d., perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, unused ..	..	..	2 2 0
b	Canada, 1c. red-brown on laid .. ..	..	..	1 2 0
c	Cape of Good Hope, wood block, 1d. carmine-red, pair ..	..	..	7 0 0
	Ditto, 1d., two a copies averaged .. ..	..	..	4 12 0
	Ditto, 1d., three b copies averaged .. ..	..	..	2 10 0
c	Ditto, 1d. light blue. Reserve £35 .. ..	..	..	47 0 0
	Ditto, 4d. light blue, two a copies, averaged ..	..	..	4 0 0
	Ditto, ditto, eight b and c copies, averaged ..	..	..	1 11 0
a	Ditto, 4d. dark blue .. ..	..	..	3 3 0
b	Ditto, 4d. chalky blue, on original .. ..	..	..	1 12 0
b	1d. red on bluish, unused .. ..	..	..	0 15 0
b	4d. blue on bluish, unused, two averaged ..	..	..	0 10 0
a	6d. violet, pair unused .. ..	..	..	3 5 0
a	1/- emerald, unused .. ..	..	..	4 4 0
c	Ceylon, imperforate, 8d. brown .. ..	..	..	9 0 0
c	Ditto, another, nicked .. ..	..	..	4 4 0
b	Ditto, 9d. lilac-brown .. ..	..	..	2 15 0
b	Ditto, 10d. verm., unused .. ..	..	..	1 12 0
c	Ditto, 1/- violet, pair .. ..	..	..	0 11 0
c	Ditto, 1/9 green .. ..	..	..	1 5 0
b	Ditto, 2/- blue .. ..	..	..	2 5 0
c	Ditto, another, unused .. ..	..	..	1 12 0
a	5d. purple-brown, no wmk. .. ..	..	..	1 12 0
a	9d. brown, no wmk. .. ..	..	..	1 4 0
a	4d. carmine, star, unused .. ..	..	..	1 10 0
a	10d. vermilion, star, perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, unused ..	..	..	0 14 0
a	5d. purple-brown, C.C. .. ..	..	..	1 2 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Ceylon, 10d. vermilion, C.C., imperf., unused ..	..	..	0 17 0
a	24c. purple-brown, C.A., "Specimen" .. ..	..	..	2 2 0
a	5c. on 8c. yellow, inverted, unused .. ..	..	..	0 18 0
Great Britain. All unused, unless otherwise stated.				
a	1/2d. rose, plate 1, imperf., unused .. ..	..	..	0 9 0
a	1d., die 2, small crown, perf. 14, on bluish ..	..	..	1 5 0
c	1d., Archer's roulette, 2 pin-holed averaged ..	..	..	2 11 0
c	1d., Dickinson paper, pair .. ..	..	..	4 8 0
a	1d., plate 222, sheet of 240 .. ..	..	..	3 5 0
a	1d., plate 116, imperf. .. ..	..	..	5 0 0
a	1d. black, reprint of 1864 .. ..	..	..	2 ..
a	1d., stars in corners, large crown, imperf. ..	..	..	0 18 0
a	1d. lilac (16 pearls), imperf. .. ..	..	..	1 2 0
a	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. lilac-rose, without "Specimen" .. ..	..	..	1 10 0
a	2d., no lines, pair .. ..	..	..	12 0 0
b	2d., no lines .. ..	..	..	1 10 0
a	2d., plate 7 .. ..	..	..	1 18 0
a	2d., plate 13, imperf. .. ..	..	..	0 12 0
b	2d., plate 9, on thin card for Paris .. ..	..	..	0 10 0
a	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., plate 3, orb .. ..	..	..	3 0 0
b	3d., plate 2, network spandrels, "Specimen" ..	..	..	0 12 0
a	3d., plate 3, pair, imperf. .. ..	..	..	4 4 0
a	4d. rose, on thick azure safety paper, small garter ..	..	..	14 0 0
a	Ditto, vert. pair, "Specimen" .. ..	..	..	1 12 0
a	6d., plate 4 (hair lines) .. ..	..	..	1 3 0
a	6d., plate 6, emblems .. ..	..	..	1 18 0
a	6d., plate 6, imperf. .. ..	..	..	1 14 0
a	6d., plate 12, light buff. .. ..	..	..	1 18 0
a	8d., red-brown .. ..	..	..	5 15 0
b	9d. bistre, plate 3 (hair lines), perforated and used ..	..	..	20 0 0
a	1/-, plate 2, numbered 1 in error .. ..	..	..	0 8 0
a	1/-, plate 3 (hair lines), imperf. .. ..	..	..	2 2 0
a	1/-, plate 5 .. ..	..	..	0 9 0
a	Ditto, plate 6 .. ..	..	..	0 16 0
b	Ditto, plate 7 .. ..	..	..	0 16 0
a	Ditto, plate 8 .. ..	..	..	0 17 0
a	Ditto, plate 13, green, pair .. ..	..	..	1 1 0
a	1/-, plate 13, salmon, spray, pair .. ..	..	..	2 2 0
a	Similar pair, crown .. ..	..	..	1 12 0
b	2/- brown .. ..	..	..	3 12 6
a	2/- brown, no wmk., imperf., pair .. ..	..	..	5 5 0
a	2/- dark blue, pair .. ..	..	..	2 15 0
a	5/-, plate 1, imperf. .. ..	..	..	3 6 0
a	5/-, plate 4, on bluish .. ..	..	..	7 7 0
a	5/-, plate 4 .. ..	..	..	5 5 0
a	£1 brown-violet, Maltese cross .. ..	..	..	20 10 0
a	Ditto, anchor. "Specimen" .. ..	..	..	1 16 0
a	£1 purple-brown, crowns .. ..	..	..	1 16 0
a	Another, deeper shade .. ..	..	..	2 0 0
a	Another, orbs .. ..	..	..	4 15 0
a	£5 on bluish .. ..	..	..	10 0 0
a	Another, "Specimen" .. ..	..	..	1 5 0
a	6d. octagonal, pair .. ..	..	..	2 8 0
b	6d. octagonal, reddish violet .. ..	..	..	2 0 0
b	Ditto, bluish violet .. ..	..	..	2 0 0
a	10d. octagonal, 2 averaged .. ..	..	..	1 4 0
c	1/- octagonal .. ..	..	..	0 15 0
a	Ditto, "Specimen" .. ..	..	..	0 16 0
b	Ditto, block of 9, used .. ..	..	..	1 6 0
a	2/6 on bluish (1883), 2 averaged .. ..	..	..	1 0 0
a	(1884) 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. printed in yellow .. ..	..	..	1 3 0
a	Ditto in blue .. ..	..	..	0 19 0
a	(1884) 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. printed in brown .. ..	..	..	1 1 0
a	3d., plate 4, imperf. .. ..	..	..	1 1 0
a	4d., plate 15, sage-green, garter, imperf. ..	..	..	0 16 0
a	6d., plate 9, brown-red, spray, imperf. ..	..	..	1 3 0
a	6d., plate 9, orange, spray, imperf. .. ..	..	..	1 3 0
a	Ditto, ochre-yellow .. ..	..	..	1 4 0
a	Ditto, chestnut-brown .. ..	..	..	1 4 0
b	1d., V.R., fine, but no gum .. ..	..	..	14 14 0
a	Guinea, 300r., first issue, black and brown ..	..	..	0 17 0
a	Hamburg, 7sch. yellow, perf., on original ..	..	..	0 17 0
a	Hong Kong, 8c. yellow, no wmk., imperf., unused ..	..	..	0 5 0
a	1 dollar on 96c. brown and red, no Chinese surch., unused ..	..	..	0 6 0
a	India, Service. 2as. long rect., green and lilac ..	..	..	1 2 0
a	Ditto, ditto, unused .. ..	..	..	1 10 0
b	Ditto, ditto (1867), 2as. black and lilac ..	..	..	1 7 0
b	Ditto, ditto, 6as. 8pies, unused .. ..	..	..	3 0 0
b	(1854) 2as. yellow, imperf., pair unused ..	..	..	0 13 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.			CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
a	Labuan, 6c. on 16c., red and blue ..	5	5	0	a	Queensland, 1d. imperf. ..	1	6	0
a	16c. blue, C.A. sideways, sheet of ten, unused ..	4	6	0	b	(1863) 1/- gray, pair, imperf. between ..	1	12	0
a	6c. black on 8c. purple, ditto ..	0	18	0	a	(1869) 20/- rose, unused ..	3	12	6
a	Similar sheet, all surcharges inverted ..	2	10	0	a	(1882) 1d. scarlet, imperf., pair unused ..	0	8	0
b	Macao, 10c. on 50c., blue and green ..	1	2	0	a	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown, unused ..	2	2	0
b	Malta, 3d. buff on bluish, unused ..	1	0	0	b	St. Lucia (1st issue), 6d. green, unused ..	1	10	0
c	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. early state ..	2	0	0	b	St. Vincent, 1/- purple black, unused ..	1	2	0
a	Ditto, 1d. later state ..	1	6	0	a	4d. blue, C.A., perf. 12 ..	0	11	0
b	Ditto, ditto, pair ..	2	0	0	a	4d. red brown, C.A., perf. 14 ..	0	9	0
b	Ditto, 1d. worn plate, 5 averaged ..	0	8	0	a	Ditto, unused ..	2	15	0
b	Ditto, 1d. worn plate, unused ..	1	1	0	c	South Australia, 1d. green, imperf. pair ..	2	7	6
b	Ditto, 2d. early state ..	5	5	0	c	Ditto, vertical pair ..	1	10	0
c	Small Fillet, 2d. worn plate, pair ..	1	0	0	b	3d. red on blue ..	1	0	0
b	Ditto, 2d., 3 averaged ..	0	12	0	b	Sweden, 2 ore orange, imperf., on original ..	0	16	0
b	Ditto, 2d. unused ..	1	2	0	b	Tasmania, 1d. blue, vertical strip of 4, on original ..	7	5	0
b	Greek Border, 1d., 2 averaged ..	1	4	0	b	1d. blue, unused ..	2	0	0
b	Ditto, 2d., 2 averaged ..	1	2	0	a	1d. blue, 6 specimens averaged ..	1	16	0
c	Britannia, 4d. black and green ..	1	14	0	b	4d. deep orange, plate I., on original ..	1	10	0
c	Montserrat, 4d. blue, C.A. ..	3	10	0	b	4d. yellow, plate II., vertical strip of 4 ..	1	6	0
b	Natal, 1st issue, 1d. blue, unused ..	1	0	0	a & b	4d. yellow, 3 pairs averaged ..	0	11	0
b	Ditto, 1d. buff ..	3	3	0	a	4d. blue, rough roulette ..	1	6	0
b	Ditto, 6d. green ..	1	1	0	a	6d. grey, ditto ..	2	5	0
b	Ditto, 1/- buff ..	1	8	0	b	1/- red, straight cut roulette ..	5	5	0
c	Nevis, 6d. grey, litho, unused but mended ..	1	10	0	a	Tobago, 6d. ochre, C.A., unused ..	8	0	0
c	Newfoundland, 2d. carmine-red ..	3	0	0	a	Transvaal, (1883) 1/- green, tete-beche pair ..	1	16	0
a	2d. orange-red ..	3	0	0	Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., Jan. 23 & 24, 1895.				
b	4d. orange-red ..	1	16	0	b	Bangkok, France, 1853, 20c. blue, imperf., B postmark ..	1	0	0
c	6d. orange-red, unused ..	4	0	0	b	Brazil, 300r. black, slanting figures ..	2	4	0
a	8d. carmine-red, pair unused ..	2	2	0	c	British Guiana, 96c. bistre, thinned, unused ..	2	2	0
b	Half 1/- carmine-red ..	1	0	0	a	Canada, 12d. black, on card, "Specimen" in red ..	1	12	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney Views, 1d. plate I., superb pair (24 and 25) ..	10	10	0	c	74d. green ..	1	16	0
a	Ditto, 2 pairs on original averaged ..	5	0	0	c	10d. blue, very fine, but slight mend ..	1	7	0
a	1d., plate II., strip of 4 (6, 7, 8 and 9) on original ..	14	0	0	c	Cape, 4d. blue, wood block ..	1	0	0
a	Ditto, single on blue paper, on original ..	4	0	0	c	Ceylon, 2/-, imperf., thinned ..	2	6	0
a	Ditto, 2 pairs on laid averaged ..	5	18	0	b	9d., no watermark ..	1	2	0
a & b	1d. 10 pairs averaged ..	3	5	0	b	5d. brown, C.C. ..	0	17	0
a & b	1d. 28 single specimens ranged from 17/- to 65/- and averaged ..	1	10	0	b	2r. 50c., heavy postmark ..	1	10	0
a	2d., plate I., deep blue, on orig., dated 1st Jan., 1850 (first day of issue) ..	10	0	0	a	France (1853), 80c. tete-beche pair ..	2	0	0
a	2d., plate I., on original ..	3	5	0	b	(1870) 20c. blue tete-beche pair, unused ..	0	11	0
b	2d., plate II., "creev" omitted ..	2	10	0	c	Great Britain, 2/- salmon, heavy postmark ..	1	5	0
a	2d., plate II., retouched, No. 16 ..	2	2	0	b	"I.R. Official," £1 marone, orbs. ..	1	12	0
a	2d., plate IV., strip of 4 (21-24) ..	9	10	0	a	£5 orange ..	2	6	0
b	Ditto, block of 4 ..	4	0	0	c	Hong Kong, 10 dollars ..	1	5	0
a & b	2d., 3 pairs averaged ..	3	5	0	a	12c. on 10 dollars, unused ..	0	10	0
a & b	2d., 48 single specimens ranged from 11/- to 57/6 and averaged ..	1	1	0	b	ditto, used ..	0	16	0
b	3d. pair (14 and 15) on bluish ..	5	5	0	c	India (1855), 2a. green, unused ..	1	10	0
c	3d. on laid paper ..	1	5	0	b	Liberia, 6c. rose, imperf., outer line, unused ..	0	8	0
a & b	3d., 11 single specimens ranged from 11/- to 53/- and averaged ..	1	7	0	c	Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d. blue, half worn plate ..	1	3	0
a	New South Wales, Laureated, No Watermark, 1d. lake, pair on laid (1 error WALE) ..	4	4	0	b	Greek Border, 1d. red ..	1	10	0
b	1d. carmine, unused ..	1	6	0	a	Montserrat, 4d. blue, C.A. ..	3	7	6
a	1d. carmine, 2 leaves right ..	0	10	0	c	Natal, (1857) 1/- buff ..	1	14	0
b	Ditto, pair on white (1 no leaves right) ..	1	10	0	c	1/- green, curved surch. in black ..	1	2	0
b	Ditto, 2 pairs averaged ..	0	12	0	b	Nevis, 6d. on greyish, unused ..	2	17	6
a	2d. blue, stars, pair ..	4	10	0	b	Another, used ..	1	10	0
b	Another pair ..	2	12	0	c	6d. lithograph, unused ..	3	5	0
b	Ditto, 6 single specimens averaged ..	0	13	0	c	Another, used ..	2	0	0
b	3d. green, the error WACES ..	1	12	0	c	1/- green, perf. 15, 3 damaged, averaged ..	1	0	0
b	6d. brown, plate I., WALLS ..	2	7	6	b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow ..	2	12	0
b	Ditto, 6 specimens averaged ..	0	19	0	b	Newfoundland, 6d. orange vermilion ..	1	16	0
b	6d. brown, plate II., 7 specimens averaged ..	0	13	0	a	4d. lake, sheet of 20 ..	1	14	0
b	8d. orange, 12 specimens averaged ..	1	19	0	b	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., plate 2 ..	1	4	0
b	3d. laureated, wmk. 3, unused ..	0	15	0	b	2d. laureated, stars, 2 averaged ..	0	11	0
b	Registration, red and blue, imperf., unused ..	1	14	0	b	New Zealand, 1d. blue paper ..	1	14	0
a	New Zealand, 2d. thick paper, 2 unused averaged ..	1	1	0	b	4d. rose, unused ..	1	1	0
a	1d. verm., star, rouletted ..	1	2	0	b	Oldenburg, 2nd issue, 3gr. black on green, unused ..	3	10	0
c	2d. slate-blue, pelure, perf. ..	1	15	0	c	Ditto, 3gr. black on yellow, broken 3, unused ..	1	10	0
a	6d. brown, ditto ..	1	0	0	c	Peru, Medio Peso, rose, slightly clipped ..	8	0	0
c	1/- green, ditto ..	2	10	0	b	Prince Edward's Island, 1c. orange, 6 specimens ..	2	0	0
c	1d. verm., pelure, imperf. ..	0	15	0	b	3d. rose, 10 specimens ..	3	14	0
b	2d. blue, N.Z., roulette ..	1	0	0	b	3c. rose, dot after "Prince," 2 specimens ..	1	12	0
b	1/- green, ditto ..	0	15	0	b	St. Vincent, 1d. on half of 6d. dark-green ..	2	2	0
a	(1875) 1d. lilac, large star, unused ..	2	5	0	b	5/- lake, star, heavy postmark ..	5	15	0
a	Oldenburg, 3gr. black on yellow ..	1	0	0	a	Shanghai, 3 cands. in blue on 16c. green, unused ..	2	14	0
b	Peru, Medio Peso rose ..	8	10	0	c	South Australia, 1d. yellow-green, imperf. ..	0	18	0
c	Phillipines, 1st issue, 1r. blue, CORROS ..	1	1	0	c	2d., S.A., perf. x roulette ..	0	12	0
c	Ditto, 2r. green, ditto ..	0	14	0	b	C. in blue, on 1/- brown, roulette ..	1	6	0
					c	Tobago, 6d. ochre, C.A. ..	1	18	0
					c	Turk's Islands, 1/- prune, perfs. clipped one side ..	8	0	0
					b	Tuscany, 60 crazie, red, small margins ..	7	5	0
					b	United States, New York P.O. 5c. black ..	1	5	0
					a	(1857), 90c. blue, penmark ..	1	10	0
					a	Columbus, 4 dollars carmine, pair ..	2	0	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, Jan. 30 and 31, 1895.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.		
a	Antioquia, First issue, 5c. green	12	12	0	a	Finland. Error. 10 pen. brown on lilac, laid paper, unused	3	5	0
a	do., 10c. lilac	21	0	0	c	Great Britain. The V.R. Slight stain and tear, unused	7	7	0
b	Austria, Newspaper, (30kr.) rose on original, creased ..	6	6	0	a	10d. brown, octagon, plate 3, unused	3	15	0
b	do., (6kr.) yellow	1	15	0	a	Another, plate 4, unused	3	15	0
a	Azores, First issue, 5r. black surch. unused	2	6	0	b	9d. dark straw, 4 flowers, plate 4, unused	0	17	0
a	Second issue, 5r. do. do.	0	12	0	a	Hanover (1856), 3/8 thaler, wide net, unused	4	12	0
a	Barbados. 1/- black, imperf. unused	1	0	0	b	10gr. green, unused	2	17	6
b	Bavaria, 1kr. black, silk thread, unused	3	12	6	b	Ditto, a vertical pair, unused	6	12	6
a	Bergedorf, First issue, 1/2sch. black on pink, unused ..	2	2	0	a	India (1855), 2as. green, unused	3	0	0
b	Bolivia, (1867) 10c. brown, unused	1	2	0	a	Service (1868), 2as. green and lilac, unused	3	3	0
b	do., 50c. blue, postmark	2	12	6	a	Ditto ditto, 4as. ditto ditto	7	0	0
b	Brazil, 180 reis, sloping figures	1	18	0	a	Ditto ditto, 8as. ditto ditto	13	10	0
c	300 reis, do., cut into	2	15	0	c	Labuan, 6c. in red on 16c. blue	8	0	0
a	British Columbia, 10c. blue, imperf. unused	4	10	0	a	Levant (1870), red and blue	5	15	0
a	10c. pink and blue, unused	3	6	0	a	Lubeck. 2 1/2sch. brown, error, unused	2	5	0
a	5c. orange and black, perf. 12 1/2, unused	3	5	0	a	Madeira. Second issue. 24or., unused	1	6	0
c	25c. yellow and violet, do. do. corner mended ..	2	10	0	a	Third issue. Ditto ditto	1	2	0
a	50c. violet, and red, do. do.	2	8	0	b	Mauritius, post paid, 1d. verm. on bluish early state, unused	10	0	0
c	British Guiana, First issue, 4c. black on yellow, cut square, one corner mended	40	0	0	b	Ditto, another on yellow, unused	5	10	0
c	do., 12c. black on thick blue, cut to shape	5	10	0	a	Ditto, another, used	6	0	0
b	(1851), 1c. black on magenta, cut close	3	15	0	b	Ditto, 2d. blue, early state, unused, but no gum ..	15	0	0
c	do. 4c. black on deep blue, unused, creased	4	10	0	a	Ditto, another, earliest state, magnificent copy, on piece of original	92	0	0
c	(1853), 1c. vermilion, unused	5	10	0	c	Ditto, another, torn	3	0	0
a	do., 1c. brick red, do.	4	12	6	a	Large Fillet, 2d. blue, fine	35	0	0
b	do., 4c. dark blue, do.	3	6	0	a	Ditto, another	17	0	0
c	(1856), 4c. black on crimson, slightly damaged, unused, (43 by 38 mm).	19	0	0	c	Ditto, another, mended	5	10	0
b	(1862), 1c. black on rose, crossed ovals, No. 1	4	4	0	b	Greek border, 1d. red, unused	5	0	0
a	do. do., pearls, No. 17	7	0	0	b	Ditto, 2d. blue, unused	3	3	0
b	do. do., grapes, No. 23	8	0	0	c	Small Fillet, 2d. blue	1	10	0
c	do., 2c. black on yellow, crossed ovals, No. 8 ..	2	12	6	a	Britannia Magenta, unused	0	15	0
a	do. do., vertical pair, imperf. between, Nos. 6 and 12	18	5	0	c	Ditto, 4d., black and green	1	16	0
a	do. do., pearls, No. 18	6	10	0	c	Ditto, 1/- green, perf., unused	1	2	0
b	do. do., grapes, No. 21	5	10	0	a	Mexico (1864), 3c. brown, Gothic surch. and dates, unused	4	10	0
a	do., 4c. black on blue, hearts and pearls, No. 5 unused	13	13	0	a	(1867) 3/4r. black on grey, Gothic surch., unused ..	0	15	0
c	do. do., trefoils, No. 17, corners clipped	1	16	0	b	Guadalaajara (1867), 1/4r. white, pair	8	0	0
c	do. do., rosaces, No. 22	4	10	0	b	Modena. 9c., large B.G.	2	2	0
b	Brunswick, 3sgr. black on pink, unused	3	7	0	b	Moldavia, 27 paras, black on rose	21	0	0
b	Buenos Ayres, Steamship, 1 peso, light brown ..	1	8	0	a	54 paras, blue on green	12	12	0
a	do., 1 peso, dark brown	1	12	0	b	108 paras, blue on pink, unused	35	0	0
c	do., 3 pesos, green, mended	1	14	0	b	Naples. 1/2 tornese blue, arms, unused, but no gum ..	28	0	0
a	do., 4 pesos, red, unused	17	10	0	c	Ditto, cross, mended	2	2	0
b	Ditto, 5 pesos orange, unused	33	0	0	a	50gr. lake	3	5	0
a	Ditto, another, used	20	0	0	b	Another	2	4	0
b	Canada. 6d. purple black, on laid, unused	6	0	0	a	Natal. First issue. 9d. blue, used and fine	26	0	0
b	7 1/2d. green, unused, slight stain	5	5	0	c	Ditto, 1/- buff	1	14	0
c	12d. black	29	0	0	a	Nevis. First issue. 4d. rose, unused	3	10	0
a	Ditto, "Specimen" on cartridge	3	0	0	a	Ditto, 6d. grey-lilac, unused	3	3	0
c	Cape of Good Hope. wood block, 1d. red, unused ..	5	5	0	c	Ditto, another, used	1	10	0
b	Ditto, 4d. blue, unused	3	5	0	a	New Brunswick, 3d. red, unused	3	5	0
c	Ditto, 4d. blue	1	10	0	a	6d. yellow, unused and fine	26	0	0
c	Ditto, 4d. dark blue, mended	1	2	0	a	1 - violet, unused, mint state	40	0	0
c	Ditto, error, 1d. blue, cut into at left side	12	0	0	c	Another, used and slightly damaged	6	6	0
a	Ditto ditto, 4d. red, margins small, but fine	52	0	0	c	Another, colour faded	4	17	6
b	Ditto ditto, 1d. blue in a pair with 4d. blue, latter torn, light postmark	65	0	0	c	The Council. Unused, with perfs. clipped	5	15	0
a	1/- emerald, very fine	2	4	0	a	Newfoundland. 4d. orange-red, unused	9	0	0
a	Ceylon, 1/2d. on white, imperf., unused	0	14	0	b	6d. orange-red, unused	8	0	0
a	4d. rose, imperf., unused, full gum, fine margins and colour	130	0	0	a	6 1/2d. carmine-red, unused	10	0	0
c	9d. brown, imperf., cut close	1	0	0	a	1/- carmine-red, unused, but no gum, small margins ..	24	0	0
a	1/9 green, imperf., unused	4	4	0	a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. red on bluish, plate 1, unused	15	0	0
c	4d. rose, perf., star, unused	2	0	0	c	Ditto, another, used	1	13	0
c	8d. brown, perf., star, unused	3	0	0	a	Ditto, 1d. plate 2, pair	4	15	0
c	1/- violet, no wmk., unused	1	10	0	b	Ditto, 1d., single copy	1	2	0
b	Colombia (1861), 2 1/2c. black	1	18	0	b	Ditto, 2d. blue, plate 1	3	15	0
c	(1862) 10c. blue, unused	1	14	0	b	Ditto, 2d. blue, plate 4, unused	16	16	0
a	Ditto, 20c. carmine, unused	18	0	0	c	Ditto, 3d. green, unused	2	17	6
a	Ditto, 50c. green, unused	2	4	0	b	Laureated 8d. yellow	3	0	0
a	Ditto, 1 peso lilac, unused	4	0	0	a	(1854) 6d. violet, imperf., unused	1	6	0
a	(1863) 50c. red, error, unused	17	0	0	a	Ditto, 8d. orange, imperf.	8	10	0
a	Denmark. First issue. 2rbs. blue, unused	2	4	0	c	Ditto, 1/- rose, imperf., wmk. 8, unused	3	10	0
b	Ditto. 4rbs., yellow-brown, unused	3	0	0	a	8d. yellow, wmk. C. and N.S.W., imperf., on original, postmark 1879	4	0	0
b	Dominican Republic. First issue. 1/4r. black on rose, unused	1	4	0	c	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue	1	6	0
a	Ditto, 1/4r. black on green, unused	4	15	0	b	1/- green on blue	3	0	0
b	Ditto, 1r. black on yellow, unused	9	15	0	b	1/- green, pelure. roulette	2	2	0

(To be continued.)

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No reports to hand on going to press.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MANY members having expressed a desire that I should issue a printed Membership Card. This I have done, and all members of the Society will duly receive a copy.

A great many applications for membership have come to hand this month, and the following ladies and gentlemen have been elected members:—Mr. J. J. Darlow, Oldham; Mr. T. L. Holden, Oldham; Mr. J. C. Bigges, Belfast; Mr. Robert Smith, Sheffield; Mr. H. W. Ward, Oxon.; Miss Budgeon, Ballywilliam; Miss O. A. Chataway, Winchfield; Mr. Oman Welber, Abingdon.

EXCHANGE REPORT.

Sept.—A Packet—18 Sheets sent out, value £66 14s. 7d. Exchanged Stamps, 263, value £7 8s. 10d.
.. —B Packet—20 Sheets sent out, value £46 15s. Exchanged Stamps, 160, value £5 16s.
Oct.—A Packet—23 Sheets sent out, value £78 0s. 1d. Exchanged Stamps, 306, value, £13 7s. 1d.
.. —B Packet—19 Sheets sent out, value £41 4s. 1d. Exchanged Stamps, 158, value, £4 5s. 2d.

A. A. GRIEISON, Hon. Secretary.

LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the sixth meeting, held at Effingham House, Arundel Street, on December 14th, 1894, Mr. Nankivell called attention to the subject of perforation-measurement, and moved "That this meeting is of opinion that steps should be taken to ensure uniformity in the system adopted in the measurement of perforations, and that a Committee be appointed to consider the matter, together with the general question of Philatelic measurements, and to report thereon at a subsequent meeting." Mr. Ehrenbach seconded, and the motion, after some discussion, was carried; and Messrs. Gordon Smith, Ehrenbach, and Nankivell were appointed a Committee to consider and report on matters referred to.

At the seventh meeting on December 28th, 1894, Mr. E. D. E. von Weeman, of New South Wales, was elected a member.

Mr. F. Ransom then read a paper entitled "The suggested methods for the restoration of colour to postage stamps." In referring to the recent papers on this subject by the Earl of Kingston and Mr. Willett, Mr. Ransom called attention to the fact, that as in each case the chemicals suggested were powerful oxidizing agents, the so-called oxidation of stamps was technically a misnomer. In illustration of his observations, Mr. Ransom performed a number of interesting experiments in so-called oxidizing and deoxidizing of stamps.

The ninth meeting was held at the same venue on January 11th. Mr. Willett wrote, resigning his membership. Mr. Wickham Jones announced that it was proposed to hold the Society's Annual Dinner on February 26th. Mr. Bacon read a paper by Mr. Charles H. Mottram, on the Stamps of New Zealand. Mr. Mottram, who was a collector as far back as 1862, and resided in New Zealand, in the

first part of his paper gave extracts from an early Proclamation, which fixed the rate for letters at twopence the half ounce, and he was able to show that at the time postage stamps were first introduced there were apparently no use for a one penny value. The second portion of the paper was devoted to the first stamps printed in the Colony, and from copies of certain Government statistics, which were produced, Mr. Mottram argued that the supply of "star" watermarked paper sent out with the plates was not at first made use of, but that the earliest local printing was that on the blue wove unwatermarked foolscap papers. On the motion of Mr. Garth, seconded by Mr. Bacon, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Mottram, who attended the meeting as a visitor.

BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE fifth meeting of the season was held at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, Dec. 17th, at 7.45 p.m. Present—Messrs. W. T. Willett, J. W. Gillespie, O. Pfenninger, E. E. Manwaring, H. Davis, R. J. Woodman, and A. de Worms. In the absence of the President and Vice-President Mr. W. T. Willett took the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary reported the receipt of the annual report of the Oldham Philatelic Society. Mr. Woodman exhibited his collection of British North America, and made a few remarks on the same. The Secretary also showed some fine specimens of the early issues of these countries.

— SCOTT'S —

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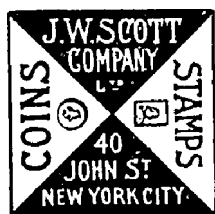
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No. II.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1895.

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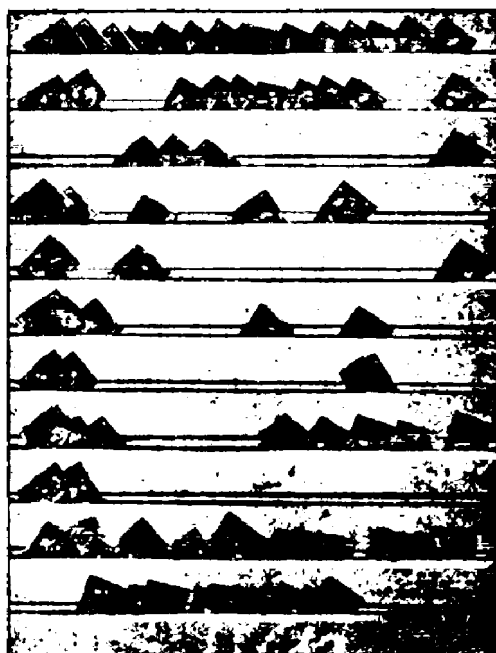
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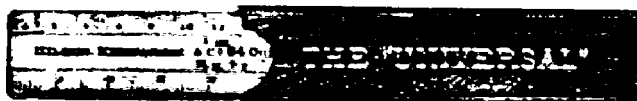
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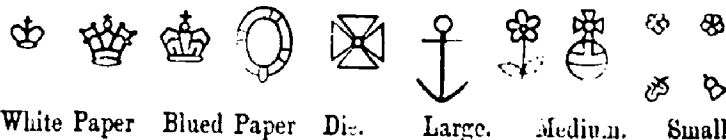
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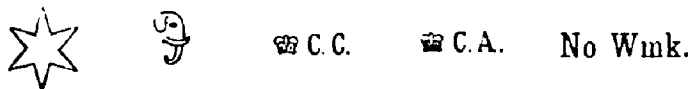
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March 28 & 29.—By Order of Executors, a FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION, including the following Rarities:—Great Britain, V.R., France, 1 franc orange, Austria, 30kr., head of Mercury, Spain, very fine, including 3cts., Madrid, unused, 2 reals of 1851, 1852 (both unused) and 1853, Naples, ½ tornese cross and 50gr., Tuscany, 3 lire, very fine, 2 soldi and 60 crazie, Modena, large B.G., Oldenburg, complete, Levant, Provisionals, unused, a fine Collection of Russian locals, Saxony, 3pf., Basle. 2½r., Zurich, 4r. and 6r., Moldavia, 54p. and 108p., Ceylon, 4d., 8d., 1/9 (a pair) and 2/- imperf., Cape of Good Hope, woodblocks and error, 1d. blue, Mauritius, early 1d., 2d. and 4d. green, British Guiana, 1850, 12c. blue, 1856, 4c. majenta, 1862 Provisionals. Philippines, a fine lot, Dominican Republic, 1st issue, 1 real and medio real, South Australia, 10d., wmk. Crown and SA. and P.S. on the 3d. red and blue, West Indies, a fine lot, including Provisionals, St. Vincent, lithographed Trinidads, Virgin Islands, 1/- used, Bolivia. 500c., 9 and 11 stars, Brazil, 180, 300 and 600c., Buenos Ayres complete, fine, Colombians, Antioquia. 1st issue, 2½c. blue and 1 peso, Bolivar, 10c. green, Mexico, 3 centavos, Peru, medio peso yellow, also a superb lot of United States, including the Brattleboro, St. Louis, 10c. (3 types), a fine lot of locals, used, 1869, 15c., inverted centre, Departmentals complete, and an unique Collection of entires, Confederate States, Tellico Plains, an unused pair 5c. and 10c., &c., Canada complete, except 12d., Newfoundland, 1/- orange, and others too numerous to mention.

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No. 11.—Vol. I. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1895. ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society and City of London Philatelic Club.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	89
How U.S.A. Stamps are Printed	90
Philately at Home	91
City of London Philatelic Club	91
Between Ourselves	92
English Stamps Used Abroad	93
Note on the St. Andrew's Cross	93
Minor Varieties, U.S.A.	94
Forgers and their Work	94
Our Black List	95
Philately Abroad	95
Our Forum	96
Answers to Correspondents	96

Philatelic Personalities.

ALBERT BURGMEISTER QUIGLEY, *alias* John J. Morgan, *alias* Harry Stone, *alias* Lewis Bishop, *alias* George Warran, has again been heard from. He is penitent now, this arch philatelic crook, and "hopes for forgiveness," and all that sort of thing; but it is significant that he has fled to one of the South American States in order to repent in quietude and at a safe distance from the American police.

It is not too much to say that *hundreds* of American stamp collectors and dealers have been severely victimised by this plausible fraud. Some of his exploits read almost like romance, so daring a swindler was he.

As "Lewis Bishop, of Denver, Colorado," he must have netted a comfortable little pile in money and stamps. It was six months before the identity of "Lewis Bishop" was suspected, and then it was owing to the keenness of eye of one of the Mekeel's, who saw an astounding similarity between the handwriting of the notorious Quigley and that of the Denver dealer. The story of his arrest by the police, of his many stratagems and subterfuges, and of his subsequent escape from captivity by a daring leap from a window, furnish—unless the American journalist has been up to his old tricks—worthy material for the pen of a Gaborian.

Is appearance Quigley is smart-looking, alert, and intelligent. In a whining letter (from his South American refuge) he promises to "devote his life to the work of repaying all who have suffered through him," talks of "regret for his spoiled life," and even drags in an allusion to his Maker. It is to be hoped this is sincerity, but, coming from Quigley, it reads painfully like fudge.

COL. HARRY DUVAL, well known in American society, and himself an enthusiastic collector of curios, tells the following story about a stamp collection, which, he thinks, is the most interesting one in the world. "It was owned by an aunt of mine. About the close of the war she made a wager that she would collect a million stamps before her death. A gentleman, who had tried the feat himself, bet her a sealskin jacket that she would not be able to do it. Another wagered some silver; a third who was in the silk importing business, bet a quantity of valuable silk. And so on. There must have been three thousand dollars in wagers."

* * *

"My aunt (continues the Colonel) was a merry young woman, and wrote to all her friends to help her. Many were very influential and obtained for her all the stamps received by the express companies and large real estate firms. Inside a few years her million stamps were complete. She won the wagers and gave a fine reception to celebrate the event. Most of those old war stamps went out of issue in a few years and now they are worth many times their weight in gold. There is one issue of 30-cent stamps that sell for two dollars apiece, and she has sold over 1,000 of them. Others are just as valuable. Although she has given many away and sold thousands, there is no perceptible diminishing of her collection. She has thousands of dollars invested in securities directly traceable to those stamps."

* * *

MR. CHARLES MORTIMER, JUN., informs us that he has opened a branch establishment in connection with his father's business at 37, Leicester Square, W.C.

* * *

PHILATELISTS who were wont to dive down into the bowels of the earth, in St. Michael's Alley, in quest of Mr. Arthur Myersecough and stamps, are warned that they will no longer find either there. On Monday last, Mr. Myersecough removed himself, his ledgers, and all his philatelic goods to new and larger offices, at 61 & 62, Gracechurch Street, E.C.

* * *

AMONG our English philatelic writers, Mr. Edward J. Nankivell is probably one of the most prolific. Looking over English and American publications for the month of December we can reckon up some 34 pages from his pen, including leaders, technical articles, chatty notes, and humorous contributions. We note that he always signs his technical articles and his London Letter to the *American Journal of Philately*, but everything else, he insists upon putting under one or other of his three philatelic *noms de plume*.

Thirty-four pages, totalling up to 28,000 words, or about two pages of *The Times* newspaper, small type, is not bad for one English philatelist; but then, he is a professional journalist, and was for some years on the Editorial Staff of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, with Mr. John Morley, as his chief, and probably does not count this record as anything extraordinary.

How U.S. Stamps are Printed.

A JOURNALIST'S VISIT TO THE AMERICAN BUREAU OF PRINTING AND ENGRAVING.

I AM the first newspaper man to whom has been granted the privilege of witnessing the processes by which Uncle Sam is beginning to print his own postage stamps at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The wheels have started, and before many days the machines will be turning out the parallelograms of red, blue and green paper at a rate to supply the post office department with the required 40,000,000 sheets per annum. Each sheet, as furnished to the Government, will consist of 100 stamps.

The printing is done on queer looking presses, each of which produce 1,600 stamps a minute, or about 100,000 an hour. Each press has an endless chain that carries four plates, on which the designs of the stamps are engraved. On each plate 400 stamps are represented. The sheets printed from these plates are intended to be cut into quarters eventually, in which shape they will be sold by the post office department.

Each plate is carried by the endless chain first under an ink roller, from which it receives

A COATING OF INK OF THE PROPER COLOUR.

Then it passes beneath a pad of canvas, which oscillates so as to rub the ink in. Next it pauses for a moment under the hands of a man who polishes the plate.

Finally a sheet of white paper is laid upon the plate, both pass under a roller, and the sheet comes out on the other side—400 printed postage stamps. The plates revolve in a circle, as it were—more accurately speaking, they move around the four sides of a square in a horizontal plane.

While one is being inked another is being rubbed by the canvas, another is being polished, and the fourth is passing under the printing roller. The circuit takes about a minute, during which four sheets of 400 stamps each are printed.

The most important part of the work, requiring the greatest skill, is the polishing. It is done with the bare hands, no other method being equally efficient. The object is to leave exactly enough ink for a good impression, and no more. One girl lays the white paper sheets upon the plates, while another young woman removes them as fast as they are printed and stacks them up in a pile.

This process gives the results of hand press work. Half a dozen presses working together, each turning out 100,000 stamps an hour, can produce

A GOOD MANY MILLIONS IN A DAY.

Three hands are required for each press—the printer, who does the polishing, and two girls.

The printer must account for every sheet of blank paper that he received. These sheets are counted in the wetting division before they are delivered to him. After they are printed they are counted before they are sent to the examining division, where they are counted again.

Spoiled sheets are counted as carefully as perfect ones because they represent money. If lost or stolen, they could be used. On each sheet appears the special mark of the printer who turned it out. An allowance of one and one-half per cent. is made to him for spoilage.

If he exceeds the allowance, he must pay for the extra loss at the actual cost of paper, ink, and labour represented.

No loophole is left for the loss of a single one-cent stamp. After being examined, the sheets are counted again and are put between straw boards under an hydraulic press to make them lie flat. Thus they are counted more easily and can be made up into smaller bundles. After undergoing this process they are counted once more and are sent down stairs

TO BE GUMMED AND PERFORATED.

For these purposes the Bureau of Engraving has purchased entirely new machinery, and the means employed are more than ordinarily interesting. The method of gumming is a novelty, being wholly different from that utilized hitherto in such work.

The machines for this purpose have just been set up.

There are two of them, exactly alike, and one will do for description. Imagine a wooden box nearly 60 feet long, four feet high and three feet wide. From end to end runs what might be taken for the skeleton of a trough.

This skeleton projects from the box for a few feet at either extremity. The box is traversed by two endless chains, running side by side, two feet apart. Into one end the sheets of printed stamps are fed one by one. As it is fed into the machine each sheet passes under a roller of a printing press, to which a gum made of dextrine is slowly supplied.

The sheet takes up a coat of this mucilage on its lower side and is carried on by the endless chain through the long box. This box is a hot air box, being heated by steam pipes. At the other end of it the sheets are delivered

AT THE RATE OF 18 A MINUTE.

Just one minute is required for a sheet to pass through the box, and it is delivered perfectly dry.

The gummed sheets thus delivered are passed over to a long table, where girls pick them up in pairs, and, placing the gummed sides together, put them between layers of straw boards. Arranged in this way they are placed under a steam press to flatten them, the mucilage having caused them to curl somewhat.

On coming out of the press they are counted again, and now they go to the perforating machine that make the pin-holes by which it is rendered easy to tear the stamps apart.

The perforating machine is an arrangement of little wheels revolving parallel to each other and just far enough apart to make the perforations as one sees them in a sheet of finished stamps fresh bought at the post office. After the perforations have been made across the sheet one way by one machine, the sheet must pass through a second machine for the cross perforations.

In the middle of each machine is a knife which cuts the sheet in two, so that the sheet of 400 comes out of the machine No. 1 in two sheets of 200 each, and these are divided into four sheets of 100 each by the second perforating machine.

The stamps are now done and only remain to be gone over, inspected, counted and tagged in packages of 100 sheets before being sent out. Each package of 100 sheets holds 10,000 stamps, of course.

But stay! There are one or two more preliminaries yet. After receiving the perforations the sheets of 100 are put under a press to remove the "burrs" around the little holes, otherwise these would greatly increase the thickness of a package. Then they are counted and

PLACED IN STEEL-CLAD VAULTS,

from which they are drawn as the post-office department may want them.

The bureau of engraving has not yet begun to furnish stamps to the government, but is all ready to do so. In response to orders received from the post office department it will put the stamps up in packages, address them to postmasters who require them, and deliver at the post office in Washington for mailing.

The post office department now has an agency at the bureau of engraving. When a postmaster wants stamps he makes out a requisition upon the department. All this business used to be done in New York city, where the stamp agent received the stamps from the American Bank Note Company in bulk, his business being to put them up in packages and send them off by mail.

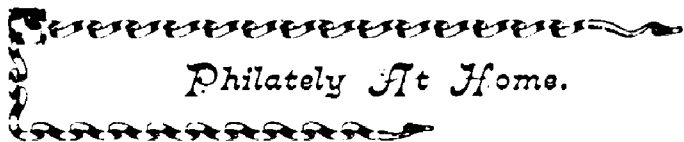
The inks used for printing the stamps are manufactured at the bureau of printing and engraving. The materials are bought in the shape of dry colours and linseed oil.

The colors come in the shape of powders. The only stamps turned out thus far are the two-cent red and the one-cent blue. For the former carmine is used, and for the latter ultramarine. Both colours are "toned" by the admixture of other ingredients—the carmine with paris white and white lead. Pure carmine would be very costly.

Ultramarine is not very expensive, but it is too "strong" in the printer's phrase—that is to say, too dark. It used to be the costliest of colours, being made from the precious lapis lazuli. But in recent years chemists having analyzed

the lapis lazuli, have produced in the laboratory a successful imitation of the colour-stuff.

For making the ink, the colour powder is combined with linseed oil and ground between rollers. Each printer receives every morning his allowance of ink, and sharp account is kept of every bit used. Uncle Sam will save about \$50,000 a year by printing his own postage stamps.—*Washington Star*.



Philately At Home.

NOT VERY GREAT "GAINS," THESE!

IN an "Index to the Philatelic Gains of 1894," just published in the *Philatelic Record*, we find chronicled the "stamps" of Nyassaland, Abyssinia, Trinidad Principality, and a large assortment of other equally worthless pieces of gummed-paper, including the whole of the Chinese unhappy family of Chefoo, Chinkiang, Chunking, *et hoc genus omne*. Pretty items these for a philatelic profit and loss account, but has not the *Record* placed them on the wrong side of the book? *Gains!* Ye philatelic gods! we are thinking that the unwary philatelist who sunk his money in Nyassaland gumpaps or Abyssinian stamps which have never seen Abyssinia, must be feeling pretty mournful when he thinks of such *gains* as these. The *Record's* choice of a headline is not felicitous.

THE UNPHILATELIC AUTOCRAT.

WITH the very deepest regret we announce that the late Czar of All the Russias, Alexander III., was not a philatelist. We regret the fact, because it was pleasant to think that the great Autocrat, whatever his political virtues or vices may have been, was at least a good philatelist. But alas, and alack, the Czar had only "a small collection in a printed album," including no single stamp which one could call a rarity. He was a Czar of quite an ordinary stamp. But we are not grateful to the Grand Duke Alexis for disillusionising us.

MR. FREDERIC'S PHILATELIC "TIP."

MR. HAROLD FREDERIC foresees another boom in old Europeans. In one of the latest instalments of his fascinating "Stamp Album" articles in the *Million*, he writes:—"If 1895 does not bring about a change in their favour, that change will come none the less in the near future. The chase into Colonial and other remoter fields has nearly run its course. The re-action will surely come. Luxemburg, Spain, Modena and Tuscany, the older Thurn and Taxis, and Denmark, are as interesting as Nova Scotia or St. Christopher. Our readers will be wise if they accept our prophecy about a coming advance in Europeans, and make haste to fill up vacant places in their albums before it arrives.

IS A FORGERY BETTER THAN A BLANK SPACE?

THE *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* of 1864, gives as its opinion that nothing could be said against well-made forgeries if they were only sold as such, bearing the name of the maker on the back, since so many collectors who were unable to pay high prices for stamps would be quite satisfied with the imitation. We wonder what the writer would say if he could read the discussion for and against Reprints, in which some advocate that such stamps are the best substitutes for the originals; while others say that they are nothing better than forgeries and ought to be tabooed altogether.

What should we think now-a-days of any philatelic writer who had the courage to suggest that forgeries pure and simple should take the place of all those rarities which are unobtainable by most of us? What an avalanche of replies would come to hand denouncing such an audacious writer as the greatest enemy to Philately—and rightly so, we think. We remember photographic reproductions of the 2 reales Spain, 1852 and 1853, which were thrown on the market some thirty-five years ago by a Leipzig artist, and which to this day are regarded as hardly distinguishable from the originals. Many years ago we had an opportunity to compare

these stamps and apart from the paper, we could see no difference. The question now is, which is preferable, a Reprint *à la* Alsace Lorraine (even if made by Government) which differs from the original stamps materially, or such an imitation which shows no difference? There can hardly be any objection to the latter if its true character is indicated on the back, and all idea of fraud made impossible, but the objection of course comes in, when the production of such stamps lies in the hands of some unscrupulous dealers who are not above selling these imitations "on their merits." That this is done there is no doubt and by London dealers, too!

Only the other day, a 4d. Ceylon was sent to us for opinion. It professed to be imperf and unused, but as a matter of fact it was a perforated specimen cut down with penmarks cleaned by acids. Our correspondent returned the stamp after showing it to two other dealers who endorsed our opinion, but we have since ascertained that the stamp has actually been sold for £20. Comment is needless.

"THE STAMP DEALERS OF GREAT BRITAIN."

CONSIDERABLE improvement marks the seventh issue of "Nunn's Directory," more popularly known, perhaps, by its old title of "The Stamp Dealers of Great Britain." It is the fashion, in reviewing Mr. Nunn's useful little book, to dilate upon the errors it contains, the dead men it resuscitates, and so on. Of these things we shall say nothing, for it has been borne in upon us that the publisher of the ideal and absolutely perfect directory of stamp dealers is as yet unborn. Mr. Nunn's book, as we have said, shows great improvement. It shows also signs of great care and much work, and, if there are errors here and there, the fault most probably must be attributed to the dealers themselves, some of whom would as soon over-assess themselves in the income tax return as fill up the simple form Mr. Nunn sends them. Anyhow, at five pence post free, "Nunn's Directory" is distinctly neither a rash nor a ruinous investment.

IMPORTANT TO AUCTION SALE FREQUENTERS.

MESSRS. VENTON, BULL, & COOPER ask us to draw the special attention of our readers to the altered date of their next sale, which takes place on March 13th and 14th, instead of the 7th and 8th.

City of London Philatelic Club.

THE Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, *Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, *Philatelic Record*, A. Smith & Sons' *Monthly Circular*, *Philatelic Advertiser*, *The World's Exchange*, *The Million*, and *The Stamp Collectors' Journal*.

From the Continent, *L'Annuaire Timbrologie*, *Welt Post*, and *Die Postwertzeichen Kunde*.

From the United States, *The Post Office*, and "Minor Varieties," from Mr. H. Gremmel, New York.

From Canada, "The Standard Handbook of Counterfeits" (L. M. Staebler, London, Ontario), and "Canada Stamps" (H. F. Ketcheson, Belleville, Ontario).

Also Auction Catalogues from Messrs. Venton, Bull and Cooper; and H. Gremmel (New York).

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. F. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of the members at our meetings every Thursday, at Cossavella's, 121, Cheapside, E.C.

THE EXCHANGE PACKET.

Members are requested to send in their sheets for the next packet promptly to time; otherwise the Exchange Superintendent cannot guarantee their inclusion in the packet.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP,

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

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The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 23, 1895.

... Between Ourselves ...

Much has been said for and against publication of Secret Marks, and detailed accounts of new discovered forgeries, etc. The policy of English dealers is has always been to let collectors know as little as possible, no doubt with the idea of having a greater opportunity to fish in the dark. This is not our opinion and we have proved it all along by our Black List, our articles on the secret marks of Bremen and Hamburg, etc. It is solely owing to this stupid short-sightedness of English dealers that Philately in England is very much behind what it is abroad. It is only within the last few years that the Philatelic Press have condescended to enlighten its readers more than before, and as a natural consequence Philately has boomed. We read in the *I.B.F.*, that not very long ago some Greek or Turk offered the well-known forged 25 Piastres (see page 37 of the *STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY*). One dealer bought £100 worth of these stamps; others exchanged these labels for good stamps, but as it happened, a German philatelist remembered the photograph published by the *I.B.F.*, drew the attention of the dealers to the matter, and the Police were instructed accordingly. No doubt these were the same two gentlemen who infested London some few months ago. Had this fraud not been discovered in time, many collectors would have bought the stamps from these dealers and thus lost their money. It simply goes to show that the diffusion of philatelic knowledge can do no harm.

* * *

It is not a particularly satisfying "leader," that which deals with the subject of the Nyassaland gumpaps in the February issue of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*. Mr. Brown, who is doubtless sorry enough in his heart of hearts that he ever soiled his hands with as barefaced an issue of made-for-collectors stamps as ever saw the light of day, affects to take a very hopeful view of the position of affairs. It will all come right in the end, he thinks. "The negotiations between the Portuguese Government and the Nyassa Company are still proceeding, and it is not impossible that some arrangement may be made whereby the present stamps may be legalized." He will "spare no pains," will Mr. William Brown, "to obtain a satisfactory solution." But suppose the solution be unsatisfactory; suppose, as seems only too probable, that the Portuguese Government decline to condone the Nyassa Company's deliberate infraction of the terms of its charter, what then? Will Mr. Brown refund all the money he has received for these precious Nyassalands?

There is no indication of such an honourable intention in the *P.F.G.B.*'s editorial on the subject. That is why we regard the article as unsatisfying.

In justice to Mr. Brown it must be admitted that he has been made the catspaw of an avaricious company. Still, that is Mr. Brown's look-out. When a stamp dealer, whose business it is to sell postage stamps to postage stamp collectors, goes out of his way to assist in foisting upon philatelists a set of gumpaps of the most flagrant description—"provisionals" being issued concurrently with the normal varieties!—he must look out for squalls. We have said again and again, and we mean to go on saying it, that in the "gumpap" lurks a serious danger to Philately. At best, the Nyassaland stamps are gumpaps, and unless the Portuguese Government obliges Mr. Brown by legalizing the stamps, they will have to be regarded as absolutely bogus. That is, of course, their character at the present moment; but Mr. Brown has raised a plea of *sub judice*, and we shall content ourselves with styling them gumpaps. But we think our Salisbury friend's hope of a happy release by legalization is likely to prove fruitless. The present stamps (as they are called) of Nyassaland, are doomed to extinction. The worst of it is, they will be followed by an issue of labels, which, though "authorized," will be none the less gumpaps for all the work they will do in the way of prepaying letters.

* * *

It has occurred to the erudite editor of the *Philatelic Record* to betake him to his editorial telescope and "observe" the philatelic "signs of the times." An edifying occupation truly, and a space-consuming one withal. Two pages of the *Record* are very pleasantly filled with editorial musings upon matters of the moment. An optimist of the first water is the *Record's* editor. Possibly optimism (not to suggest Micawberism) is "catching" in Queen Victoria-street? Be this as it may, we should like to point out to our estimable confrère that he has confined his attention to one side of the medal. In acclaiming the continued "boom" in prices, the spread of philatelic knowledge, and the formation of numerous new philatelic societies, as "hopeful signs of the times," he forgets, or possibly ignores, such unhelpful indications as the rigging of auction prices, the promotion by respectable dealers of shady issues of stamps, the wholesale emission of "gumpaps," and, lastly, the rotten state of certain philatelic organisations. Oh, decidedly, the signs of the times are not all good! Let the editor of the *Record* turn to the third page of the cover of his own paper. There he will see sets of Nyassaland stamps (?) deliberately offered for sale by his publishers—Theodor Buhl, Limited—a month after they have been proved to be absolutely bogus in the columns of this paper. Pray, what sort of a sign of the times is this, good Editor?

The article to which we have devoted so much attention opens with the observation: "We do not attach much importance to the increase of periodical philatelic literature—(the advent of the "S.C.F.," mark you, is not a 'hopeful sign of,' etc.,) —because it is a well known fact that not one in a dozen of these periodicals is a source of direct gain to the proprietors, unless assisted by advertisements." The *Record* itself is only "assisted" by the advertisements of its publishers—which, *inter alia*, invite the philatelic public to sink good money in bad Nyassalands. An it please you, worthy Editor, we of the *STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY* can dispense with such "assistance," though we are willing enough to let our space to vendors of honest wares. We are optimists ourselves,—within limits. We believe firmly in the future of Philately, because we know there are enough good men in the hobby to "save the situation"; and we believe in the future of the *STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY*, because we think we have earned the good will of our subscribers and merited the "assistance" of many *bona fide* advertisers. But we do not believe that any good purpose is scored by blinking disagreeable facts.

To Our Readers!

If you wish to help us, please show this copy to a brother collector. Remember, every new subscriber will help to enable us to give still better value for the money.

English Stamps Used Abroad.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

WHEN I made an attempt in the Illustrated "Catalogue of English Adhesives" to chronicle for the first time some of the postmarks used abroad on the homeward-bound mail, many wiseacres shook their heads, and an anonymous reviewer in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* even went so far as to say that it was absolute nonsense to make any distinction. I had occasion to prove in an editorial that this "Summer Critic" knew nothing whatever about the subject he was criticising. I took the trouble to investigate some of his glaring errors, and all the excuse he had was "Please sir, I didn't know." Of course such a "critique" is not only absolutely worthless, but damaging to the cause we all have at heart—that is to say, to clear up dark points and get at the bottom of matters. In my catalogue I state under the heading "Colonial Postmarks."

Very few collectors are aware that British Stamps were used in the Colonies before the special issues of the various Dependencies. Here we may say that no attention whatever has been paid to these issues, and we maintain that a British Stamp used, say, in Antigua or Lima, is really not a British Stamp, but an Antigua or Peruvian Stamp. It is utterly immaterial whether the design happens to coincide with those in use in the British Islands; it might just as well have been a piece of paper with the respective postmark. The latter, in such a case, gives the stamp a new character and transfers it into a stamp belonging to the country where it is used.

And I am very gratified to see that my remarks have fallen upon fruitful soil. Some very fine collections have been got together during the last 12 months, and every London dealer is fully alive to the fact that English stamps with Colonial postmarks are worth much more than the ordinary ones; five to ten times the price has been paid for specially rare copies. With the aid of these collections I have been able to compile a fairly complete list. Cordial thanks are due to Messrs. Lane, Bignold and others for their kind assistance. I earnestly request my readers to help me to correct this list, as it is of course far from perfect yet. All stamps mentioned are known to exist, and it is most curious to note how certain plate numbers are left out altogether. The reason for this is, that a supply of one plate number lasted much longer say in Smyrna than it would at home, where perhaps three or four plates were used before fresh supplies were needed abroad, such fresh supplies being sent from the plate then used in England. I must here remark that these postmarks were allotted to the various offices arbitrarily. For instance A 15 is Grenada, but A 16 is Newcastle on Tyne; B 32 Buenos Ayres, but B 60 Bournemouth, the explanation being that each Post Office, as it was opened, received a consecutive number, no matter whether the office was situated in England or abroad.

AO1.	
Jamaica, (Kingston)	1d. large crown, perf. 14, rose 1857
	4d. " garter rose 1855
	6d. lilac emblems 1856
	1/- green emblems 1856
AO2.	
Antigua	2d. plate 7
	4d. rose large garter 1855
	6d. lilac emblems 1856
AO3.	
B. Guiana, (Demerara)	1d. large crown, perf. 14.
	6d. lilac emblems 1856
	1/- green 1856
AO4.	
B. Guiana, (Berbice)	4d. rose large garter 1855
	6d. lilac emblems 1856
	1/- green 1856
AO5.	
Bahamas	2d. plate 8
	1d. plate 171
	4d. rose large garter 1855
	6d. lilac emblems 1856
	1/- plate 1

AO6.	
B. Honduras	4d. rose large garter 1855
	6d. lilac emblems 1856
AO7.	
Dominica	6d. lilac emblems 1856
AO9.	
Nevis	6d. plate 1
	2d. plate 9
	4d. rose large garter
	4d. rose medium garter on white ..
A10.	
St. Vincent	1d. perf. 14, large crown rose on white
	4d. large garter rose
	6d. lilac 1856
A11.	
St. Lucia	4d. rose 1855
	6d. lilac 1856
	1/- green 1856
A12.	
St. Christopher	6d. lilac emblems
	1/- green
A14.	
Tobago	4d. rose
	6d. lilac
A15.	
Grenada	6d. lilac
	1 - green
" M."	
Malta	1d. perf. 14, large crown rose on white
(In use before 1859)	1d. " 14 " " red-brown on bleute ..
	2d. " 14 " "
	2d. " 16 small crown
	2d. plate 7
	4d. plate 1
	6d. plate 1
	1/- " 1

(To be continued).

A Note on the St. Andrew's Cross

FOUND SURCHARGED (?) ON THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE ROMAN STATES.

(Continued from page 85).

Having now cleared the way, so to speak, we will quote the original words of an article, No. 11 of the Regulations of a Convention, dated March 30, 1852, between Finance Minister Galli and Cardinal Antonelli, on behalf of Papal Government and the Austrian Empire:—

" Art. II. Tarra delle lettere.

" Le porto comune e il porto estero devono essere notati separatamente sulle corrispondenze, in moneta pontificia, dividends i due valore con una linea o meglio 8, Queste tasse devono essere notate sulle lettere affrancate, da una parte del timbro e se è possibile sopra il bordo superiore.

" Sulle indiazio delle spedizioni affrancate devono essere apposte due linee in croce."

So that this strange overprint or surcharge turns out to be a kind of official sign or mark! Hardly a cancellation, although certainly it had to be stamped on the covers. The article in English would mean that the interior or local and foreign proportions of the postage on letters was to be divided and written on the envelope or letter cover. The "Cross" was a mark of identification, or rather of certification, that such separation had been performed, and was sometimes impressed on the labels in addition to the ordinary "Annulato" or other obliteration.

In my letter addressed on the subject of this mark to the friend before referred to, I write as follows:—"Postal Convention, 30th March, 1852, entered into between Galli for Papal States, and the Austrian Empire specifies Article 11, Letter Tax (in addition to ordinary postage) to be levied on all letters to be paid in cash (Papal currency) the mark (due linee in croce X) = two lines crossed to be stamped partly on postal labels and partly on envelope or cover." * * At

first it was intended to have employed such X for official letters. The Austrian Empire, who were then paramount (1851-9) in Italy, objected, and in Oct. 1855 this mark was abolished altogether. I find that for a long time the Papal States so marked were in Italy looked upon as Provisional Stamps for the Romagna in 1860."

The dies for this "Cross" were manufactured by Signor Valagna, of Rome, under the orders of the Director of the Papal Mint, and which printed the various postage stamps for the Holy Dominions.

In October, 1855, by order of Postmaster Camillo Massimo, the "St. Andrew's Cross" was abolished.

Herr Anheisser expresses great doubts as to the "Cross" being a surcharge; possibly when or if he should read these lines, we would remind him that it was *never* intended to be placed on the stamps. He winds up his short article on the subject of this mark by suggesting that it signifies a mark of disinfection on the part of the post-office of any letter bearing it. In plainer language he believes that owing to the prevalence of the cholera in 1854 and 1855, in Italy, letters for foreign countries were subject to disinfection prior to despatch per mail steamer or train, and that the "Cross" was struck as a sign of letters having been disinfected. In support of his novel theory, he mentions having letters dated 11th of August, 1854, sent to Rome from Livourne as being pierced and marked NETTA DENTRO E FUORI—purified inside and outside; the stamp is overprinted with the "Cross of S. Andrew's. Other varieties are mentioned to support his ingenious reasoning, but we prefer to abide by the provisions of the article establishing such mark and its use, already quoted.

Whysuch a mark should be required for the purpose, our learned friend does not offer to explain. He contents himself with merely giving dates and places which fit in with his theory. He states that although he has many letters dated 1852-1856, from various cities and towns in the States of the Church, none have the "Cross," whilst certain letters ranging from 1854-55, are stamped therewith.

We should be inclined to think that those letters which bore the "Cross" on stamps were letters on which the postage was paid in cash, the labels affixed by the postal officials, and thus marked to show their character. It is certainly most remarkable that this overprint is found only on letters leaving the Papal States, and addressed to other parts of Italy. This would tend to show that the "Cross" has a political significance, and that it was employed in compliance with the terms of the Austro-Papal Postal Convention as we have shewn.

In conclusion, Herr Anheisser is to be congratulated on his praiseworthy endeavours to clear up the mystery of the "Cross." He has advanced a strange theory upon the strength of but a few copies of letters so disinfected as he has stated in his own possession. On the other hand we quote the original document instituting the mark of a "Cross," but are still unable to account for its great rarity. As according to the Convention its use should have been much greater. Collectors should certainly take all opportunity of securing these Papal States varieties, as, when their real character and use are once determined, they will be recognised as collectable varieties, and will rise in value.

G. I. B.

NOTE.—Only the 4-1-3-4-8 Bajocci are known to me, but it is possible that the other values will be found with "Cross." As before stated, it was not meant to be stamped on the labels, but on the address side of cover or envelope. It has struck me at the moment of conclusion that possibly the *due linee in croce* 2 lines crossed might be a sign of division of the local and foreign proportions of postage on letters as required by the quoted article.

Minor Varieties U.S.A.

PRESSURE of interesting matter in this issue of the "S.C.F." compels us to hold over the promised articles on "Minor Varieties of the Stamps of the United States." The first article will appear in our No. 12.

Special for the "S.C.F."

Forgers and their Work.

By HARRY HILCKES.

IT will be in the remembrance of every philatelist that, some years ago, a number of most cleverly executed forgeries were thrown on the market in such rapid succession, and in such vast quantities, that nearly every dealer and collector of note was in some way victimised. Having made these forgeries a special study, and possessing nearly a complete set of same, I now propose in a series of articles to fully illustrate every one, as far as lies in my power.

GREAT BRITAIN, 1d. BLACK, "V.R."



FORGERY.

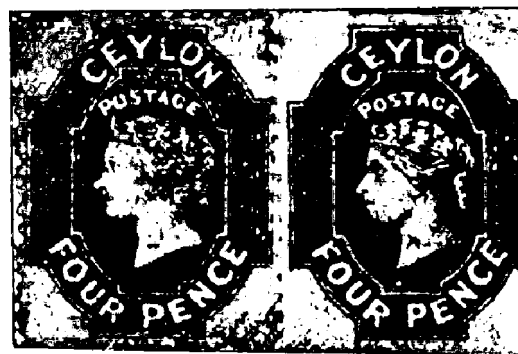
GENUINE.

Although I do not consider this stamp a properly issued postage stamp, still, as it fetches very high prices in auctions, I commence the series with same, illustrating that well-known forgery, for which Dr. Assmus, some three years ago, obtained free board and lodging at Her Majesty's expense. Of course I am not allowed to put genuine and forged stamps, side by side, and I have therefore put them on top of each other, showing sufficient design to illustrate the difference. To manufacture this stamp, the Maltese crosses of an ordinary 1d. black, were erased, and the "V" and "R" inserted by means of ordinary letter-type. These very closely resembled the genuine article, the only difference being that both letters are too wide and somewhat shorter. It may also be observed that they do not stand exactly in the centre of the letter-square, but nearly touch the upper line. Dr. Assmus supplied these stamps at 60/- per dozen, used, and considering the labour and excellent workmanship, I should say the price was reasonable.

CEYLON PENCE ISSUES.

One of the best, if not the best series, are the early pence issue of Ceylon, which were so well done, that I was able to spot one, the 8d., in a collection of one of the Members of the London Society, exhibited at the Ceylon exhibition some two years ago. It was the mustard colour imperf., on piece of original. I must add however that these forgeries were cunningly placed on original envelopes, which had really passed the post from Ceylon to London, and from which the proper stamps had been removed, and replaced by these forgeries, supplemented by a forged postmark.

4d. ROSE, perf. and imperf.



GENUINE.

FORGERY.

The colour of the forgery is more vivid, with a tinge of yellow; the paper altogether wrong, being a modern wove machine paper, instead of the old tough linen-rag paper, used by Perkins, Bacon, & Co. They are forged in both the perf. and imperf. conditions, the perforated of all values guaging about 12. All forgeries have a star watermark, of which we give an enlarged illustration.



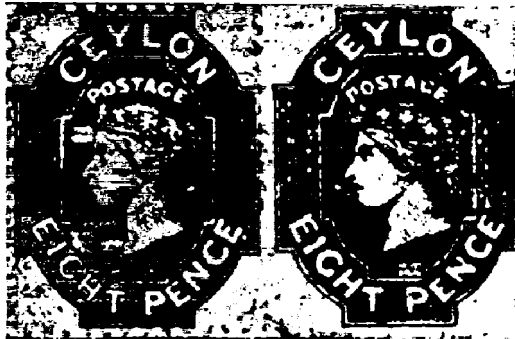
GENUINE.



FORGERY.

This watermark was impressed by means of a steel die and oil on the paper, and in some cases even showed through; there is an appreciable difference in the measurement of the stars, the forged one being somewhat larger. The design is most carefully imitated, but in every case the mouth of the Queen has a somewhat sad impression, and the engineering turning on the left and right is very badly finished. The "y" in Ceylon is badly drawn.

8d. BROWN, VARIOUS SHADES, perf. and imperf.



GENUINE.

FORGERY.

The same remarks apply to this value, but it is quite impossible to give a distinctive mark by which the forgery could be unfailingly distinguished. I consider this the best executed value of the lot, and if it was not for a certain scratchy appearance, it would have been impossible to suspect the stamp. It mostly occurs imperf., in the mustard colour.

(To be continued).

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING MARCH 9th.

All News for this column must reach the office first post on Wednesday previous to date of publication.

Auction Sales.—March 6th, Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Café, Monico, Piccadilly Circus. March 7th and 8th, Messrs. Ventum, Bull & Cooper's Sale announced for this date has been postponed to March 13th and 14th.

Tapling Collection.—The following countries are now on view in the King's Library, British Museum: West Indies (including British Guiana, &c.), and South America.

City of London Club.—Weekly Meetings at 121, Cheapside, Cossavella's Restaurant, every Thursday, at 7.30 p.m.

London Philatelic Society.—Every alternative Tuesday at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

London Philatelic Exchange.—February 26th, 121, Cheapside, E.C., Cossavella Restaurant.

Philatelic Protection Society.—

THE opinion is extensively held that the statement on certain stamps of Mexico to the effect that they are *US REAL* is a true statement. Think this over carefully and laugh when you've got time.

Our Black List.

1 and 3kr. ISSUE, UNPAID.

THESE Stamps are very scarce in the used state and therefore worth the attention of Mr. Faker, who flooded the market with specimens on part of original but stamped with a postmark which was not in use when these stamps were current. We have been offered the following:

- 1kr. black Postmark: Landau—Pfalz in circle (in blue).
- 3kr. " same.
- 3kr. " " Nussdorf" in circle (in black).

ROUMANIA, 50; BLUE WITH BEARD.

SOME rather dangerous forgeries of this rare stamp have recently been put on the market. Unless compared with the originals, these may well pass muster among the uninitiated. We append an illustration which reveals the most salient points of difference.



GENUINE.



FORGERY.

The colour of the oval is vermilion instead of carmine, the head is much too small; the features do not at all resemble the original; the inscriptions vary very much in size; the "o" in "post" is far too large, as is also the same letter in "Romania." In the upper inscription the genuine stamp shows an abnormal distance between the "d" and "e"; this has been omitted from the forgery. The "a" in "bani" is much too large. We have not seen this forgery in this country, but no doubt it will soon be here.

CLEANED STAMPS AND HOW TO DETECT THEM.

UNUSED stamps are coming more and more to the front, but the supply is nothing like sufficient to meet the demand. Most obligingly some clever chemist has tried for years past to clean off penmarked and even postmarked copies with more or less success. Aniline inks are easily removable leaving little or no trace behind. A sure test is photographic enlargement; even if not the slightest trace of penmarks can be seen, the enlargement will always bring out part of same. In the case of rare stamps we are willing to undertake such examination for a fee of 5/- per stamp.

Philately Abroad.

U.S.A., 1851, CARRIER STAMP 10. BROWN RED. A NEW DISCOVERY.

THE "I.B.J." has discovered a new variety of the Carrier Stamp which was issued on the 29th Sept., 1851, and on the 17th Nov., superseded by the oblong eagle stamp which in its turn had to make room for the General Series on the 27th Jan., 1852. Used copies of either of these stamps are extremely rare. In the design of the first Carrier Stamps with head of Washington, a brown stamp has been discovered on white paper bearing the red postmark New York. Tiffany mentions this stamp as an essay, but Mr. Ireland, the third assistant Postmaster writes under date, 10th August, 1869, (letter published in the *American Journal of Philately*) that such stamp was issued on or about the 29th Sept., 1851, but was at once withdrawn, owing to its great resemblance to the then current 3 cents stamp. Tiffany evidently had not

seen a copy when completing his work in 1886, since he speaks of the stamp as being printed in vermilion, but Mr. Theodor Haas, in the "I.B.J.," expresses the belief that there is another copy in a very large European collection, and therefore he has no doubt in the existence of the Brown Red Carrier Stamp. However, there is one mistake in the letter of the postal official. He speaks of a 300,000 issue. That seems to be impossible, since the stamps were only in use one, or at most two days. Should this not mean 300? It appears more likely, as otherwise this stamp would not have been "buried" for 44 years. We should say only one or two sheets were issued, even if 300,000 were printed, and the rest then destroyed. What do our American readers say to this? We should like to hear their views.

FORGERIES GRATIS.

We notice that an Italian paper gives gratis to every reader some Liberian forgeries of excellent make, but without in any way indicating the character of same. We know that this was done many years ago by Mr. Pemberton, but surely it has since been recognised that it is not advisable to circulate these forgeries. What aggravates the mistake is the editorial remark that all stamps not agreeing with such forgeries must be considered genuine. We know of six different forgeries of every value, and no doubt others exist. We trust, however, that the journal in question will see the error of its ways and discontinue this somewhat unfortunate idea.

.. Our Forum. ..

** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

THE AUCTIONEERING QUESTION.

GENTLEMEN,—*Re* the controversy in your paper as to auctioneers combining too many trades. For my part I had to write several threatening letters to one of the leading auctioneers in London, before I could get a Western Australian stamp returned, and it was only on threatening to post them in all philatelic societies that they sent same back and said it was "mislaid." It was not even advertized, but the others in the same letter were sold. It took eight months to get satisfaction from them, and then they blackguarded me saying "did I think the oldest auctioneer in England, wanted to get at me for a paltry stamp." It looked very much that way.

I am, Obediently Yours,

Freemantle, W. Australia,
28, December, 1894.

A. J. L.

THE METHODS OF THE P.P.A.

DEAR SIRs,—As one possessing an inside knowledge of P.P.A. affairs, I must confess that the picture drawn in your Christmas number (of which I have six copies, and mean to keep them) is not at all exaggerated. The Association, as at present managed, is worthless; and it needed but your telling article to decide me in my resolution to send no further annual remittances of two guineas to the secretary of the P.P.A. Dickens, when he wrote of the Circumlocution Office, and of the gentle art of How Not To Do It, criticised the P.P.A. in advance.

One specially glaring instance of the blundering tactics of the Committee of the P.P.A. came to my knowledge some eighteen months ago. A dealer—his name did not transpire—had written to the Secretary of the P.P.A. to lodge a complaint against another dealer, a prominent member of the P.P.A. Will it be believed that this letter was read to a committee meeting in the presence of the dealer complained of? This in my opinion was not only in bad taste, but very indifferent justice. The upshot of the matter was a threat of a libel action, but so far as I have been able to discover,

the matter never came before the Courts. The moral is the same, however.

I hope you will go on in your crusade against the seamy side of philately. You will make both friends and enemies, but the former I feel sure will out number the latter, just as the good men in this world out number the rogues.

I am uncertain whether my subscription to the FORTNIGHTLY runs out with next number or the one after that. Anyhow, I enclose 3s. 3d. for a further year's subscription.

Yours faithfully,

JUSTITIA.

12th Feb., 1895.

DOWN WITH GUMPAPS.

DEAR SIRs,—I quite think your paper one of the papers of the future, and your valuable efforts to crush out the rubbish now flooding the Philatelic societies, Exchanges, and the windows and Stock Books of many Dealers, deserve all the aid that you can get.

I heartily coincide with my fellow subscribers that we should boycott Seebecks, Chinese Locals, and all other gumpaps.

Wishing you every success,

Yours faithfully,

A. A. GRIERSON,

Hon. Sec. Ashton Phil. Soc.

Answers to Correspondents.

** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

To "A. C. M.," who wishes to know at what period the perforated postage stamps were first used, the following particulars may be of use. Archer, the inventor of the perforating machine, placed his idea before the English Government in 1848. The machines which he submitted were so-called rouletting machines, which made straight indentures into the paper; 5,000 sheets of the then penny red stamps were handed over to him, and on these sheets Mr. Archer experimented between the years 1848 and 1850. The final result of his experiments was the machine which perforates stamps precisely as they are done now. The machines were accepted and the first perforated stamps ever used was the penny red, first sold at an English post office on Feb. 24, 1854, but it is a fact that some of the sheets which were put before the Parliamentary Committee in 1850 (and which to all intents and purposes were precisely the same as those used in 1854) were used by some of the members of the committee long before they were issued by the Government, therefore the date when perforated stamps were first used should be somewhere in 1850, but the date when they were officially issued by the Post Office was Feb. 24, 1854.

H.H.P.—We have a series of articles on such matters as you mention in preparation.

L.C.S.—We know nothing to the detriment of the firm you mention; (b) about 1s. 6d. would buy a fair copy.

A. F. S. (Grantham).—There can be no doubt, that the "Star" postmark, as illustrated on page 85 of the *S.C.F.*, is a spurious one. The Hamburg postal authorities never had such a thing in use. Similar "star" postmarks, are only met with on common Prussian stamps. Nos. 17, 14, and 30, are a different obliteration mark, and undoubtedly genuine, only Nos. 6, 21, 22, 27, and 32, are bogus. Nos. 19, 20, 28, and 29, are right, but 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 35, and 36, are Reprints, 37, is a local, and 38, a steamer frank, 39, is a Columbia unpaid letter stamp. The Connell is a proof-card skinned, 41, an essay, 43, a forgery, 44—46, genuine. The French is interesting. Stamps returned 19/2/95.


THE . . .
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY.
AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1895.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

Class a—Superb condition, if *unused* with gum, (mint state), if *used*, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post-marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, Jan. 30 and 31, 1895.

Continued from page 8.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	New Zealand, 4d. rose, unused .. ..	..	2	7
a	1d. brown, wmk. N.Z., fine. <i>Reserve</i> , £35 ..	..	35	0
b	Norway. First Issue. 1sk. blue, unused ..	..	1	2
b	Nova Scotia. 6d. yellow-green, unused ..	..	5	10
a	1/- violet, unused .. ..	..	32	0
c	Ditto, used, cut into one side .. ..	..	7	0
a	Oldenburg. First Issue. 1/3gr., unused ..	..	1	18
b	Ditto, 1/2 thaler, unused .. ..	..	5	5
a	Second Issue. 1/3gr., unused .. ..	..	9	9
a	Ditto. 2gr., unused .. ..	..	4	10
a	Ditto. 3gr., unused .. ..	..	4	15
b	Third Issue. 1/3gr. moss-green, unused ..	..	2	17
b	Ditto. 1/3gr. green, unused .. ..	..	1	9
b	Parma. (1854) 15c. red, unused .. ..	..	1	2
c	Peru. Medio Peso, yellow, poor .. ..	..	1	3
b	Philippines. First Issue. 10cts pale red, unused ..	..	1	14
b	Ditto. 1 real dark blue, unused .. ..	..	1	10
c	Ditto. Ditto, unused, surcharged "Habilitado por la Nacion," poor .. ..	..	2	8
b	Ditto. 2 reales green, unused .. ..	..	1	5
a	Lithograph. 5c. red, block of 4 .. ..	..	11	0
b	Ditto. A single copy .. ..	..	2	10
a	Portugal. First Issue. 5r. brown, unused ..	..	1	1
b	Ditto. 50r. green, unused .. ..	..	1	0
c	Ditto. 100r. lilac, heavy pmk. .. ..	..	1	6
a	Queenland. First Issue. 1/- violet, imperf. and good margins .. ..	..	25	0
b	Reunion. First Issue. 15c. black on bluish, an unused original .. ..	..	50	0
a	St. Vincent. 4d. yellow, no wmk., unused ..	..	3	3
a	1/- brown, ditto, ditto .. ..	..	2	10
a	1/- blue, ditto, ditto .. ..	..	2	10
c	Sandwich Islands. First Issue. 5c. blue, unused, slight mend .. ..	..	34	0
a	Saxony. 3pf. red, vertical pair, on part of original ..	..	19	0
c	A single copy, nicked .. ..	..	2	2
a	Shanghai. First Issue. 1cand. blue on laid, unused ..	..	1	6
c	South Australia. 1/- yellow, roulette, unused, roulettes cut .. ..	..	9	0
a	2/- carmine, roulette, unused .. ..	..	1	16

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Spain. Madrid. 1 cuarto, penmark .. ..	..	1	12
a	Ditto. 3 cuartos, unused .. ..	..	17	0
a	(1850) 6r. blue, unused .. ..	..	3	15
b	(1851) 2r. red, unused but no gum .. ..	..	32	0
c	Ditto. Used copy, cut into .. ..	..	14	0
b	Ditto. 5r. rose, unused .. ..	..	2	12
b	Ditto. 6r. blue, unused .. ..	..	2	15
b	Ditto. 10r. green, unused .. ..	..	2	17
b	(1852) 2r. red, unused but no gum .. ..	..	20	0
b	(1853) ditto, ditto, ditto .. ..	..	13	0
c	(1854) 2cts. green, unused .. ..	..	1	0
a	(1869) 19cts. brown, unused .. ..	..	2	12
b	Sweden. 3sk. bco. unused, thinned .. ..	..	2	10
b	Another, unused .. ..	..	3	17
a	Switzerland. Basle. 2 1/2r., unused .. ..	..	7	5
c	Geneva. The double stamp, unsevered, nicked in 1 corner .. ..	..	19	0
a	Ditto. Another copy, joined .. ..	..	10	0
a	Ditto. Right half .. ..	..	3	0
a	Ditto. Large eagle, pair unused .. ..	..	4	0
a	Neufchatel. 5c. black and red .. ..	..	2	12
c	Vaud. 4c. black and red, cut close .. ..	..	13	13
c	Ditto. 5c. black and red, torn .. ..	..	1	0
a	Winterthur. 2 1/2r. red and black .. ..	..	3	5
c	Zurich. 4r., type 4, horizontal lines .. ..	..	13	0
c	Ditto. 4r., type 2, vertical lines .. ..	..	12	12
b	Ditto. 6r., the two types .. ..	..	2	4
b	Tasmania. 4d. orange on laid paper, sold on its merits, as unused .. ..	..	5	0
c	Another, unused .. ..	..	2	0
c	(1870), 4d. blue, unused, perf. cut .. ..	..	1	4
c	Ditto 1d., wmk. 10. 2 unused averaged .. ..	..	0	6
a	Trinidad. Lithograph 1d. blue, 6 averaged ..	..	0	7
b	Ditto 1d. pale blue .. ..	..	2	2
a	Ditto coarse impression, 1d. greenish blue, unused ..	..	11	0
c	Ditto another, used .. ..	..	2	0
a	Ditto 1d. grey .. ..	..	2	12
c	Tuscany, 1 soldo on bluish, mended, unused ..	..	2	0
b	60 crazie red, pair .. ..	..	30	0
c	a single copy, creased through and mended ..	..	5	5
b	3 lire, dark yellow .. ..	..	30	0
c	United States, 5c., black, unsigned and used ..	..	1	8
c	"Govt. City Despatch" 1c. red, cut into .. ..	..	1	5
a	Baton Rouge, 5c. green and red .. ..	..	3	0
a	Memphis, 5c. red, on piece of original .. ..	..	0	18
b	Mobile, 2c. black, ditto .. ..	..	6	6
b	Victoria, "Too Late," unused .. ..	..	3	3
a	(1854-64), 2/- green, perf., unused .. ..	..	2	2
a	8d. on 9d., brown on rose, unused .. ..	..	1	4
a	10d. slate, unused .. ..	..	3	0
a	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, single lined border unused ..	..	3	7
b	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red, unused ..	..	10	10
a	6d. bronze, fine .. ..	..	5	5
a	1/- brown, roulette, unused .. ..	..	12	0
b	Second Issue. 4d. blue, imperf., 2 unused, averaged ..	..	0	16
c	6d. brown on blue, clipped, unused .. ..	..	0	17
b	Wurtemberg. First Issue. 1kr. black on white, unused ..	..	1	4
a	Ditto. 3kr. black on yellow, unused .. ..	..	3	3
b	18kr. blue, thread, pair .. ..	..	3	12
b	1kr. brown, thread, unused .. ..	..	3	3
a	9kr. rose, thread, unused .. ..	..	2	2
a	(1863) 18kr. yellow, perf. unused .. ..	..	1	12

The London Philatelic Co., January 16, 1895.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
c	Barbados, 5/- rose	0	15	0
b	Bremen, 5 s.g. green, roulette, pair on original	0	14	0
a	5 s.g. green, roulette, unused	2	12	6
a	British Columbia, 10c. blue and pink, perf. 14, unused	6	10	0
b	25c. violet and yellow, perf. 12½	1	6	0
b	Another, imperf. vertically	4	6	0
b	British Guiana, (1853) 4c. blue	0	12	0
b	(1862) 2c. yellow, border of grapes	5	15	0
a	British Honduras, 6d. yellow	1	7	0
a	Canada, 7½d. green, unused	7	0	0
a	Ceylon, Imperforate. 8d., very fine	23	0	0
c	Ditto, 9d. violet brown	2	8	0
a	Ditto, 10d. red	1	1	0
b	Ditto, 1/9 green	1	12	0
c	8d. brown, perf., star	2	0	0
b	Colombia, (1859) 20c. blue	0	12	0
a	Great Britain, 1/- salmon, spray, unused	0	12	0
b	2/- red brown	2	0	0
a	10/-, Maltese cross	0	14	0
b	£1 marone, 3 orbs, 3 averaged	0	8	0
b	£5 on bluish, telegraphically used	2	6	0
b	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown	0	19	0
c	Lubeck, 2¼sch. brown, the error	1	0	0
a	Mauritius, 6d. green, no wmk., imperf., pair unused	1	8	0
a	1s., the same	1	6	0
b	Mexico, 8r. green on buff, Gothic surch.	2	0	0
c	(1861) 8r. black on brown	1	2	0
b	(1872) 100c. grey, imperf., watermark	1	1	0
b	Nevis, 6d. grey on blue paper, unused	4	15	0
b	6d. grey on grey, perf. 13, unused	2	15	0
a	4d. rose on grey, perf. 13	2	12	6
a	4d. orange, litho., unused	4	15	0
c	1/- green, litho., pair unused	2	6	0
b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow, penmark	0	19	0
b	Newfoundland, 6d. orange	1	18	0
c	8d. carmine-vermilion	1	2	0
b	1/- carmine-vermilion	17	10	0
b	1/- lake	1	1	0
c	Another	0	13	6
b	New South Wales. Sydney View. 3d. dark green	1	10	0
a	8d. orange, imperf.	4	0	0
b	New Zealand, 3d. lilac, roulette	0	11	0
c	1d. on blue paper	0	10	0
c	1/- ditto	1	3	0
b	4d. rose, 3 averaged	0	7	0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown, thinned	1	6	0
a	6d. green	1	8	0
b	8½c. green	0	16	0
b	Portuguese Indies, (1st type) 1½ reis black, 33 lines in background	6	0	0
a	St. Lucia, (1859) 6d. green, unused	1	14	0
a	St. Vincent, 6d. green, C.A., unused	1	1	0
b	Strails Settlements. Perak. 2c. vertically on 4c. rose, unused	1	1	0
a	Sweden, 24sk. bco. red	0	19	0
b	Trinidad, (1st issue) purple-grey on thin paper	1	6	0
b	6d. green, imperf.	1	10	0
a	1/- purple, no wmk., unused. Reserve, £4	4	0	0
c	1/- indigo, large perf.	0	15	0
b	Tuscany, 1s. yellow on blue paper, 2 averaged	0	16	0
c	3 lire yellow	13	0	0
a	9 crazie on white paper	1	16	0
a	United States, 5c. mustard	0	18	0
a	(1869) 24c., very fine	0	18	0
b	Victoria, 6d. orange, beaded oval, trimmed on one side	6	0	0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown	0	17	0
a	Western Australia, 6d. bronze, superb	6	10	0
b	Wurtemberg, 18k lilac	0	12	0

Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, January 25, 1895.

b	Brazil, 300r. orange and green, roulette	0	18	0
b	British Guiana (1860), 1c. rose	0	16	0
b	do., 1c. light brown	0	17	0
b	do., 1c. dark brown	1	6	0
b	Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 4d. blue	1	16	0
a	3d., pair, 1 with thin 3, and the other uncharged	2	0	0
a	Ceylon, Service, 2d. orange, block of 4	0	18	0
a	do., 2 similar blocks of 8d. brown, each	1	6	0
c	2 rupees, 50 cents, initials perfd.	1	18	0
a	France, First issue, 1f. carmine, block of 4 (1 tete-beche), a single, and pair of 40c. on entire original	7	0	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
b	France, first issue, 15c. green, unused	1	5	0
c	Great Britain, 2d. blue, no lines, unused	1	12	0
c	2/- red-brown	1	18	0
b	£1 anchor, on blue paper	2	2	0
a	Hanover, 10gr. green	2	6	0
a	Japan, No syllabic, ½s. brown, unused, block of 40	1	0	0
a	do., similar block, 1s.	1	16	0
a	do. do. 2s.	2	6	0
a	do. do. 4s.	2	15	0
a	Naples, ½ tornese, cross, on piece of orig.	4	10	0
a	50gr. lake	2	2	0
c	Nevis, 6d. grey-lilac, perf. 12	1	0	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. clouds, pair on bluish	3	2	0
c	6d. laureated, WALLS	1	15	0
b	5d. green, square, imperf.	2	10	0
b	5/- violet, wmk. 5/-, unused	1	2	0
c	New Zealand, 1d. orange-verm., pelure, perf. 13, perfs. cut one side	7	0	0
b	1d. carmine-vermilion, N.Z., perf. 12½, perfs. somewhat cut at bottom	13	0	0
a	Orange Free State, 5/- green, unused, 2 each	0	13	0
b	Queensland, 2d. imperf.	1	10	0
c	1/- violet-black, rough perfs.	2	2	0
a	Russia, 20k. error, green and lilac, unused	0	10	0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. yellow, no wmk., unused	1	12	0
a	Switzerland, Orts Post, pair on piece of original	1	6	0
c	Tasmania, 1d. blue, slight tear	1	10	0
a	3d., imperf., pair unused	0	17	0
a	9d. do. do.	0	19	0
a	10d. do. do.	0	17	0
b	4d. serrated perf.	1	0	0
b	1d. do., unused	0	16	0
b	Tuscany, 60cr. heavy pink	8	10	0
b	9cr. on white paper	1	14	0
b	Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow	3	12	6
b	Virgin Islands, 6d. carmine, perf. 15, unused	4	0	0

The London Philatelic Co., February 14th, 1895.

a	Belgium, (1865), 40c. rose, imperf.	0	15	0
a	Bremen, 2gr. orange, roulette, unused, 2 averaged	1	1	0
c	British Honduras, 2c. on 6d. rose, perf. 12½, unused	1	1	0
c	Ceylon, 4d. rose, imperf., mende 1 at top	3	15	0
a	France, 1fr. Empire, pair unused	2	6	0
b	Great Britain, 1d. rose, plate 191, imperf., vert. pair	2	2	0
b	Ditto, ½d. lilac-rose, plate 191, imperf., vert. pair	1	18	0
b	Ditto, 1d. lilac-rose, plate 191, imperf.	0	16	0
b	Hamburg, 4sch. green, imperf.	1	10	0
b	Ditto, another, error L for I	1	14	0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green	1	10	0
b	Ditto, another, cut close, unused	1	12	0
b	Mauritius, Small Fillet, 2d. blue, late state, pair	1	2	0
a	Nevis, 6d. litho., very fine	9	10	0
b	Ditto, another, not so fine	7	15	0
a	Ditto, 1/- litho., dark green, unused	1	18	0
a	Ditto, 1/- yellow-green, on laid	41	0	0
c	New Brunswick, The Connell, unused, imperf. 2 sides, (corner stamp)	11	0	0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange-vermilion	2	2	0
b	Ditto, 4d., ditto	3	12	6
b	Ditto, 6d., ditto	1	8	0
b	Ditto, 5c. brown, seal, unused	1	8	0
c	Nova Scotia, 8½c. green	0	18	0
b	Oldenburg, ½gr. yellow, unused, inverted G for O in "Oldenburg"	1	10	0
b	Russia, 7k. blue, inverted network, unused	1	12	0
b	St. Christopher, 1/- mauve	1	0	0
a	St. Lucia, 1/- black on orange, unused	1	12	0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. on 1/- vermilion	5	5	0
a	South Australia, 2d. carmine, imperf., pair unused	1	14	0
b	Switzerland, Orts. Post, 2½r., cross framed, unused	1	2	0
b	Ditto, Poste Locale, ditto, ditto	1	0	0
a	United States, New York P. O., 5c. large black	1	7	0
a	Ditto, (1869), 24c., very fine	1	2	0
b	Ditto, ditto, 90c., pair	4	10	0
b	Virgin Islands, 1/- double line, unused	2	12	6
b	Western Australia, 6d. green, rouletted	1	16	0
b	Wurtemberg, 18kr., rouletted	1	6	0

(To be continued.)

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No reports to hand on going to press.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING of this society was held on Tuesday, Feb. 5th, the President (Mr. Oliver Firth) occupying the chair. An instructive and interesting paper on "Water-marks and Perforations" was read by the Hon. Secretary of the society (Mr. W. H. Scott), in which he dealt with the various water-marks and perforations used in the production of postage stamps by various countries. The Exchange Club, of which Mr. Atkinson, of 25, Hanover Square, is the hon. sec., is now in full working order. The next meeting of the Society will be held on Tuesday, the 5th of March.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE members of the Plymouth Society held an exhibition of the stamps of Western Australia and Tasmania at 9, Princess-square, Plymouth, on February 6th. Mr. A. R. Barrett, the President, showed a fine lot of early Western Australians, including two very fine copies of the rouletted shilling. A beautifully arranged frame of both colonies was exhibited by Mr. R. Tvetth Stevens, the vice-president. One of the largest exhibits was that of Mr. M. Z. Kuttner, (London), which included an entire sheet of the unused penny vermilion of Tasmania, as well as a sheet of Government reprints. It also included one of the first issue of the fourpenny Western Australia on the original envelope, which bore date the 20th of August, 1855, whereas the date of issue is given by publications as 1858, (see paragraph in Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly No. 10, page 83). Mr. Coppin's exhibit was fairly complete in both colonies. In his collection was to be seen the only copy exhibited of the fourpenny C.C. perforated 14 of Western Australia, which evidently seems to be a very scarce stamp. Captain Stockdale, R.E., exhibited a very fine specimen of the first issue penny Tasmania, the first issue sixpenny, and the rouletted two-penny of Western Australia. A brilliant unused specimen of the first issue penny Tasmania and the first issue sixpenny Western Australia was included in the collection of Mr. Milton. A general assortment of both colonies was shown by the hon. secretary of the society, Mr. Asher Levy. The exhibition was largely attended by the members as well as by their friends interested in the fascinating pursuit of philately. In the first week in March it is intended to hold an exhibition of the stamps of Great Britain.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

MINUTES of a meeting held in Freemantle, Western Australia, 7th January. Present: Mr. Clifton (in chair), Messrs. Wade, Avery, Dowela, Fothergill, Snellgrove, Levine. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The 2nd Intercolonial Exchange Book from the S.A. Society was received. The balloting for places took place.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY was placed on the table, and it was decided to subscribe for two copies for the use of the Society.

The settling up in connection with the 7th and 8th Exchange was proceeded with and satisfactorily settled.

It was unanimously carried that in future any torn or mended stamps placed on the exchange sheets should be marked as such, as this had not been the case in the past, and had caused much dissatisfaction. A vote of thanks to the Chair terminated a very enjoyable evening.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE forty-fourth meeting was held at the house of Dr. Sankey, Broad Street, on Tuesday, February 13th. Dr. James Murray (president), occupied the chair. One gentleman was elected a member.

After the routine business, reading of minutes, &c., some conversation took place on the new Society for the protection of Exchange Clubs, Mr. F. A. Bellamy, F.R. Univ. Soc. (Hon. Sec. and Treas.) next gave a resumé of the articles which had appeared in the various philatelic periodicals published during 1894. A sort of general index to articles of interest, such as Mr. Bellamy laid before the Society, was by all considered a very useful table of reference. Mr. Bellamy was thanked for his trouble. Several selections of stamps were on the table, sent by Messrs. Morley, Hilckes, Durrant and others.

J. F. BURNETT, Hon. Assist. Sec.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

AT a Meeting held on Jan. 17th, 1895, W. G. Hawkins, Esq., (London), F. A. Wickhart, Esq., (London), W. A. Woolley, Esq., (Ironbridge), were unanimously elected members.

The President exhibited part of the De Coppet collection of Mexico, carefully pointing out the various errors and varieties in four vols. out of the 16 of which the collection consists.

At a Meeting held on Feb. 8th, 1895, Messrs. F. J. Lord, F. Seyde, H. W. Hodges, P. T. Deakin were elected members.

Mr. C. A. Stephenson was elected a member of the Committee in place of Mr. D. Ostara, who has removed to Manchester.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co. for a copy of their recently published handbook on Shanghai, by W. B. Thornhill.

Mr. W. B. Avery then exhibited his magnificent collection of South African Stamps. The well filled pages of wood blocks with the various errors and varieties all in superb condition, and in a fine range of shades were especially remarkable. Mr. Avery took very considerable pains in carefully explaining all the minor details of the rarer varieties.

Mr. M. P. Castle who had made a special journey for the benefit of the Society, brought with him a grand selection of his Europeans. His Oldenburgs; early unused French, including several td. vermilion, and a grand strip of 15c. green; Saxony, including a unique block of 4 of the ½ error neu—gr.; Tuscany, 800 in number, a large proportion being unused, Spain, unique strips and blocks of the rare values; Sweden, &c., excited the admiration of all.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE following gentlemen have been elected members of the Society:—W. J. Pattison and A. E. Mieth, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Wm. Sealy Fisher, Wirksworth; John Fowler, Bishops Waltham; Darius Jones, Aldershot. Resigned: Mr. F. H. Ulph, Falmouth.

There is a marked improvement in both the quantity of sheets, and the quality of the stamps sent in for the February packets, and I hope all members will try and keep up the present improved state of things.

A. A. GRIERSON, Hon. Sec.

PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 6d for three lines of six words. For every extra line of eight words, 2d.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

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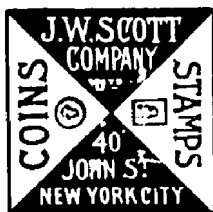
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SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1895.

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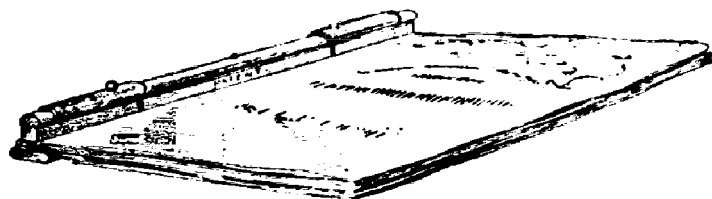
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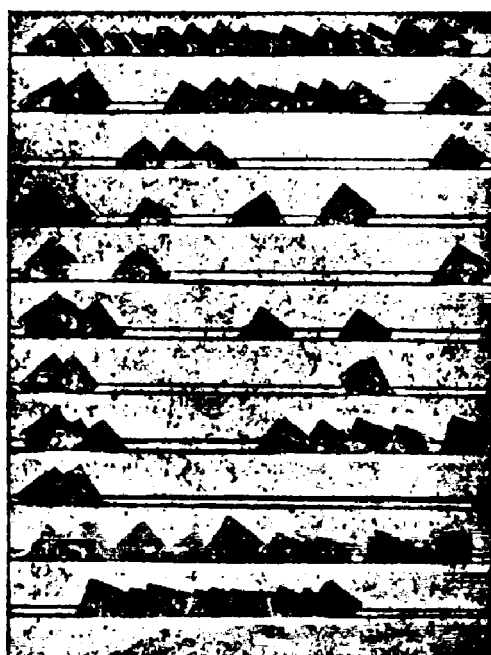
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CASH WITH ORDER. WHOLESALE TERMS.

N.B.—Nearly all Stamp Mounts now sold at a low price are coated with a mixture of dextrine, which is most injurious to many stamps, as it destroys the colours. Our Mounts are coated with two layers of *pure gum arabic* which contains *No Chemicals*, hence our high price.

Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd.,

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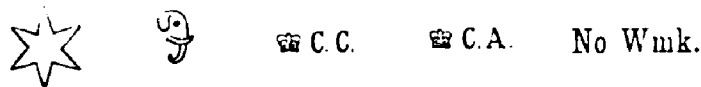
Indiarubber Stamps for Watermarks

Few will deny that the indication of varieties of Watermarks, Perforations, etc., by pen or pencil, lends an untidy and unsatisfactory appearance to the pages of the Album. To remedy this blot upon 'Philately's fair page,' so to speak, the "Indicator" Rubber Stamps have been prepared.

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White Paper Blued Paper Die. Large. Medium. small.



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Perf. 11½	Perf. 13	used	Wove

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2d. blue perf. 14, ..

U. S. A. All Columbian Dollars used and unused.
DOMINICA 1 - C.A.

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BRAZIL First issue.

And many other Rarities.

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All known Rarities of Postage, Fiscal, Telegraph, Deeds, College, Railways, Envelopes, Cards, Newsbands, &c., &c.

PRICE 1/-

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Beg to announce that their next

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WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE

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CAFE MONICO, Piccadilly Circus,

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VERY FINE COLLECTION
WILL BE SOLD.

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The Auctioneers desire to state that under NO CIRCUMSTANCES do they purchase, or cause to be purchased for them, any lots at their own Sales, nor do they receive COMMISSIONS.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEPARTMENTS.

A fine stock of Rare and Medium Stamps. Great Britain, Colonies, and U. S. A. a Speciality. Books of these Countries sent on approval on receipt of satisfactory references.

COLLECTORS' LISTS OF WANTS INVITED.

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— OF —
RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

ORIGINATED IN THIS COUNTRY BY

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,
At the ST. MARTIN'S, TOWN HALL,
CHARING CROSS, S.W.

DATES OF SALE, 1895.

March 13, 14, 28 and 29
April 18 and 19th

May 7 and 8, and 23 and 24
June 13.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, In announcing
their Future Dates, beg to draw attention to the
following important Sales:—

March 13 & 14.—A good general selection, including rare Colombians, the Chiapas on entire, plates of Phillipine and Mauritius, fine lot of Sydney Views, South Australians, including gd. perf. and roulette, Trinidad, 1/- purple, imperf., Tasmania, 1d. wmk. 2, plate of 2d. Victoria (lithographed), Suez Canal set (used), 4d. Vaud. and many others.

March 28 & 29.—By Order of Executors, a FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION, including the following Rarities:—Great Britain, V.R., France, 1 franc orange, Austria, 30kr., head of Mercury, Spain, very fine, including 3cts., Madrid, unused, 2 reals of 1851, 1852 (both unused) and 1853, Naples, ½ tornese cross and 50gr., Tuscany, 3 lire, very fine, 2 soldi and 60 crazie, Modena, large B.G., Oldenburg, complete, Levant, Provisionals, unused, a fine Collection of Russian locals, Saxony, 3pf., Basle, 2½r., Zurich, 4r. and 6r., Moldavia, 54p. and 108p., Ceylon, 4d., 8d., 1/9 (a pair) and 2/- imperf., Cape of Good Hope, woodblocks and error, 1d. blue, Mauritius, early 1d., 2d. and 4d. green, British Guiana, 1850, 12c. blue, 1856, 4c. majenta, 1862 Provisionals. Philippines, a fine lot, Dominican Republic, 1st issue, 1 real and medio real, South Australia, 10d., wmk. Crown and SA. and P.S. on the 3d. red and blue, West Indies, a fine lot, including Provisionals, St. Vincent, lithographed Trinidads, Virgin Islands, 1/- used, Bolivia, 500c., 9 and 11 stars, Brazil, 180, 300 and 600r., Buenos Ayres complete, fine, Colombians, Antioquia, 1st issue, 2½c. blue and 1 peso, Bolivar, 10c. green, Mexico, 3 centavos, Peru, medio peso yellow, also a superb lot of United States, including the Brattleboro, St. Louis, 10c. (3 types), a fine lot of locals, used, 1869, 15c., inverted centre, Departmentals complete, and an unique Collection of entires, Confederate States, Tellico Plains, an unused pair 5c. and 10c., &c., Canada complete, except 12d., Newfoundland, 1/- orange, and others too numerous to mention.

CATALOGUES may be had of

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper,

35, Old Jewry, London, E.C.

[1]



THE .. STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."
CONDUCTED BY

Published every alternate Saturday. HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

No. 12.—Vol. I. SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1895. ONE PENNY.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:
 The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	97
Embossed Wrappers of Great Britain	97
Philately at Home	98
City of London Philatelic Club	99
Between Ourselves	100
Philatelic Events	100
The London Society's Dinner	101
Forgers and their Work	101
Minor Varieties, U.S.A.	102
Our Black List	103
English Stamps Used Abroad	103
Philately Abroad	104
Our Forum	104
Answers to Correspondents	104

Philatelic Personalities.

MR. W. S. BISSELL, Postmaster-General of the United States, has resigned his office, and Congressman William J. Wilson is like to reign in his stead. This is the Tariff Wilson, whose fiscal policy is more merciful to philatelists than that of Major McKinley. Under the Wilson Tariff, we understand, there is no *ad valorem* duty on imported postage stamps for collections.

Mr. Louis Levison, whose collection has been so much talked about, is the possessor of some 25,000 specimens, valued roughly at £10,000. He is a "generalist."

The *Philatelic World's* special interviewer has been talking to Mr. J. O'B. Saunders, who is certainly a leading Indian philatelist. It was a case of interviewing an interviewer, for Mr. O'Saunders Brien—we beg pardon, Mr. O'Brien Saunders—is a journalist himself, and well known, too, in connection with *The Englishman*, of Calcutta.

Mr. Saunders is a philatelist without a speciality, though to be sure he has serious (?) thoughts of devoting particular attention to the stamps of Wadhwan. "Only the other day," he told his interviewer, "I was attending the London auctions with Mr. Hynes—what an immense amount of money changes hands at them!—and here I am back again in Calcutta and it is rather a surprise to find auctions going on merrily here, too." Mr. Saunders thinks that much of the increase of interest in philately is to be attributed to auction sales. He is right; and no stronger argument in favour of our crusade against the rigging of prices could possibly be adduced.

Embossed Newspaper Wrappers of Great Britain.

BY AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE.

AT the present time, when there is such a "run" after English Stamps, it seems very strange that the embossed newspaper wrappers should be so neglected. In the course of my postal duties thousands of them pass through my hands every week, and I have thus been enabled to compile a few particulars about them that may prove useful to young collectors, though they are doubtless old stories to many of my readers. I think that I am not assuming too much in saying that the very existence of these is unknown to the majority of collectors: they are seldom offered for sale, and I have never seen a complete set in any collection; the few specimens that have come under my notice in collections have all been obtained from friends abroad—the reason for this I will explain later on.

These stamps are used almost exclusively by a well known London firm of newsagents, Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son, who post immense quantities of periodicals to their customers abroad. Many of their parcels require a postage of from 1d. to 6d., but no stamped wrappers of a value above 1d. can be obtained at the post-offices, and therefore in order partly to avoid the risk of adhesive stamps becoming detached in transit, thus rendering the parcels liable to a charge as being unpaid, and partly to prevent fraud, this firm has had their own wrappers embossed at Somerset House, with stamps of the required denominations. These stamps are therefore of the "printed to order" series, but in face of the enormous quantities used—many thousands weekly—and the fact that there seems to be a particular set, as it were, of values employed, I consider that they are certainly entitled to a place in our albums, equally as much so as the series of embossed envelopes listed by Gibbons.

In the compound values the combinations employed are consistent and not the mere productions of fancy, only those values being printed for which there is a steady and regular demand in the ordinary course of the firm's business. After twelve months of watching I have failed to notice any new values, though I have seen many hundreds of every one of those given below. They are, with rare exceptions, used wholly on periodicals destined for places abroad: fully half of them go to India; France, Germany, and Switzerland almost monopolise the remainder. Owing to this fact they are all obliterated in the Foreign News Branch of the G.P.O., and the postmarks on them will therefore be either a barred oval or a barred circle, enclosing the letters "F.B." There are two sizes of the oval obliteration; the smaller one being employed on the travelling post office, carrying the Continental mail, between London and Dover, for transmission *via* Calais. Another obliteration which is, however, not employed in the G.P.O., but is applied by postal officials who visit the firm's office for the purpose of sorting the periodicals into

Has your friend Jones seen this paper? If not,

"countries," in order to facilitate their dispatch on arrival at the G.P.O., consists of a circle enclosing another, which is formed by thirty-six rays, broken at the top by two short horizontal lines, at the bottom by four ditto, and on either side by one perpendicular line, each unbroken set of rays consisting of nine. In the centre, "London"; above, 2, figures; below, the month, day, and year, in letters and numerals.

All wrappers are embossed on paper of the regulation size, which is thin wove, and of similar texture to that officially used, but of a lighter tint. The dies employed are those used for stamping the ordinary embossed envelopes—"not dated" series.

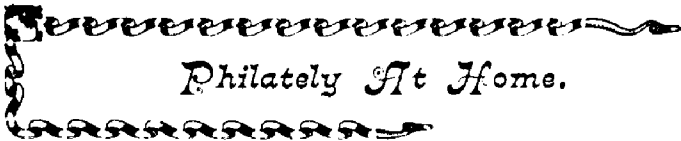
There are six simple and eight compound values as follows:—

1½d. yellow.	3½d. (2+1½) lake and yellow.
2d. lake.	3½d. (1½+2) yellow and lake.
2½d. blue.	3½d. (3+½) rose and vermilion.
3d. carmine-rose.	4½d. (4+½) vermilion.
4d. vermilion.	4½d. (2½+2) blue and lake.
6d. violet.	4½d. (3+1½) rose and yellow.
	5d. (4+1) vermilion and pink.
	5d. (2½+2½) blue.

[As regards the compounds we think that our correspondent omitted some values, since we are informed that the authorities at Somerset House use their own discretion when to make values of say 3d., 4d., 5d. &c. But no official data can be obtained, the returns simply stating that "Embossed Wrappers were issued to the value of so many pounds, without giving a detailed list.—H. H.]

Gibbons fails to list any of these, and Morley's catalogue just issued, only mentions one of them, the 3d. carmine-rose.

A close look-out has failed to disclose any other values than those given above, and I believe no others exist. Now and then, but very seldom, I have seen a specimen or two addressed to places in England, but all of these have been either of the 1½d. or 2d. values. Of the simple values the 6d. is necessarily the rarest, and about ten or a dozen being used per diem, while the two compound values least used are the 5d. (4+1) and the 4½d. (2½+2). This last has for some time been obsolete, the 4d.+½d. being now employed to form the value of 4½d. These bands are cut square (the edges not trimmed as in the official issue) and are ungummed, a dash of paste being applied before use.



Philately At Home.

THE QUEEN'S EFFIGY ON OUR STAMPS.

MR. HENNIKER HEATON, M.P., has broken out in a fresh place. In the House of Commons the other day he asked the Postmaster-General whether the representation of the Queen Empress on the stamps of India had been so altered as to give a fairly accurate likeness of Her Majesty at the present day; and whether, seeing that the effigy of the Queen on the stamps of the United Kingdom was designed in the early part of the present reign, a more modern effigy could be designed.

MR. ARNOLD MORLEY replied that the representation on the Indian stamps had been recently altered and the effigy on the stamps of the United Kingdom was a design of comparatively recent times. He could see no necessity for replacing these stamps with fresh designs.

IT WOULD KILL GUMPAPS!

Says a writer in that smartest of American Journals, *Filatelie Facts and Fallacies*: "A STEP in the direction of international postage means a nail in the coffin of Seebeckism. All hail, then, to international postage!"

A POST OFFICE GIRL ON PHILATELY.

COLD and haughty, sometimes even studiously rude, is the Post Office Girl. Perhaps it is due to her consciousness of the dignity appertaining to a position under Government—

"p'r'aps not." But there it is. Sometimes the fair dispenser of postage stamps will unbend—"thaw," perhaps would be the better word. She thawed the other day at the instigation of a pressman connected with a London daily, and vouchsafed enough chit-chat for quite a readable interview.

Here is what she said in reply to a question about philatelists. "Yes, I think that quite a number of stamp collectors come to me. For instance, yesterday a gentleman bought a complete set of the ordinary stamps, from a half-penny up to a shilling, which he told me was for a grandson of his, who was beginning an album. Then the other day a gentleman asked me if I had 'anything new.' I showed him the new letter-card and the new registration envelope, but he said he had got those. Then I showed him the foreign post-card, though it is not exactly new; but many people haven't come across it, and it is quite our finest piece of work. He was delighted with it, and bought half-a-dozen at once. Now, I think that he was a collector. When the new registration envelope came out this year, I sold quite a number over the counter which were taken away unused; which is very unusual, for, as a rule, the public put their letters in before me and then pass them in to be registered. Those envelopes were bought by collectors, you may be sure."

"THE STAMP NEWS ANNUAL."

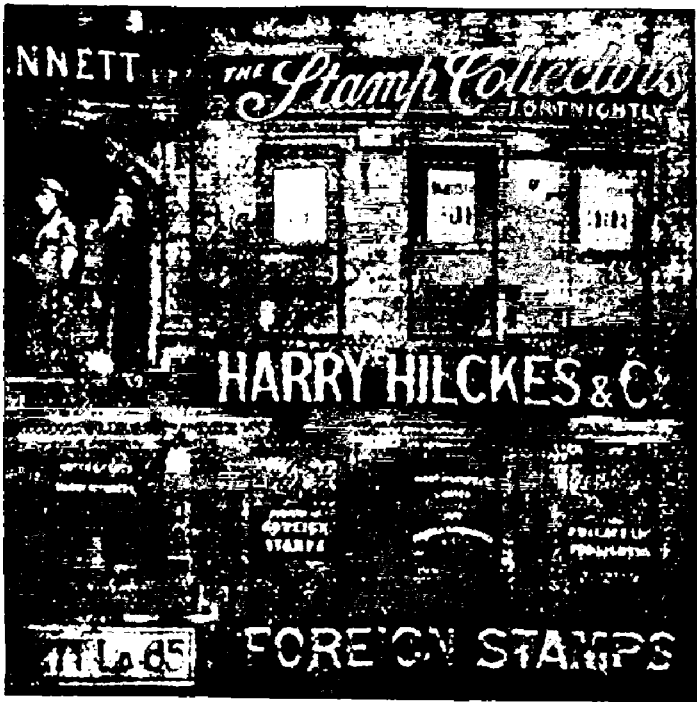
ANYTHING in the nature of a detailed review of the "Stamp News Annual, 1895," (Theodor Buhl, Limited, price 2s. 6d.) would be so much good space wasted, there being a preponderance of matter which is quite useless to the scientific philatelist. For instance, "The Portraits on the Stamps of the South American Republics," is biography, not philately; "Collectors in Council" is very poor "padding," and the description of a German Post Office, which is "lifted" from *Pearson's Weekly* is of precious little use to a philatelist. On the other hand, the "Annual" contains really valuable contributions from Mr. Westoby, Mr. Nankivell, Mr. Anheisser, Mr. W. Reeve Wallace (whose review of "The English Philatelic Literature of 1894," is a delightful piece of writing), Mr. Asher Levy, Mr. J. F. Burnett, and the Rev. J. A. Dunbar-Dunbar. On the whole the "Stamp News Annual" at 2s. 6d. is by no means bad value for money, its greatest fault being that with a little good philatelic literature one has to take a vast deal of bad.

IS MENDING FAKING?

THE slang word "fake," so commonly used in philately, can boast a very respectable pedigree, being (according to the new Murray dictionary) a variant of the old English *feak* or *feague*, which again are traceable to the German *fegeu*, to furbish up, clean, sweep. Mr. Nankivell, whose article on this subject, is one of the best things in the new "Stamp News Annual," draws attention to the somewhat singular fact that Major Evans makes no mention of the word "fake" in his recently-published glossary of philatelic terms. But what more immediately concerns us is Mr. Nankivell's expressed opinion that "it is an open question whether the use of the word should not be extended to the clever mending of damaged stamps." Here is indeed good material for discussion. What is the true status of a mended stamp? Is mending faking?

A CHEAP FORGERY HANDBOOK.

WHAT would seem to be "a long felt want" has been filled by Mr. L. M. Staebler, of London, Ontario, by the publication of "The Standard Handbook on Counterfeits" at the moderate price of 25 cents. We cannot quite see our way to accept the little book at its publisher's valuation—that is, as the "Standard" handbook; but all the same it is a useful compilation of facts which every philatelist ought to master. When Mr. Staebler publishes a second edition he will probably include in his book many forgeries of recent execution which are at present conspicuously absent. He will also do well to expunge such superfluous information as references to essays, which have nothing in common with forgeries. And, not to be too carping, we might suggest a little more thoroughness in proof-reading. "Japan 2 sch. yellow"—and in a headline, too—is really a refinement of absurdity.



64, CHEAPSIDE, E.C.

ENGLISH ALBUM.

ALL orders have at last been despatched, and we trust the book will be satisfactory to our clients in every way.

"UNIVERSAL" COLLECTING BOOK.

It is over two years ago that after many trials I published a little book without a name, in which to arrange our approval stock. They were bound in morocco, gilt edges and faintly ruled to suit the requirements of collectors. They found so much favour with our clients that we were repeatedly asked to sell them singly, which we have done for many months past. We were, therefore, somewhat surprised, when from different quarters a similar article was published, which was an absolute copy of our own with this difference, that the make is of a most shabby character. We should not have made any remark upon the subject, but as the article mentioned bears no name, we were afraid that it might be taken that it emanated from our firm. We, therefore, take this opportunity to state that our "Universal" Collecting Book bears this name on the cover, but our own name does not appear. Two editions are published, and for particulars we refer our readers to advertisements appearing on the cover. If our readers will compare our article published at 1/9 with the above mentioned book at 2/10½, they will see for themselves which is the better one for the money.

"UNIVERSAL" DUPLICATE STOCK BOOK.

No sooner is a good thing brought on the market and catches on, than it is sure to be copied. There are two firms in this country, who have recently tried to imitate our Duplicate Stock Books which were first introduced to English collectors in December, 1892. The essential quality of these books is, most excellent workmanship (they are made by one of the first account book makers in this country); a special kind of paper is manufactured for it, which has the peculiarity of not expanding if too many stamps are placed between the strips, thus ensuring absolute safety against loss, if the book is carelessly handled. The strips are glued with a special preparation, and never come off, whereas one of the articles which we have seen, is made abroad from a highly glazed shoddy packing paper; the strips come off very easily, as the glaze does not permit of the glue being properly absorbed by the paper, and valuable stamps are thus easily lost.

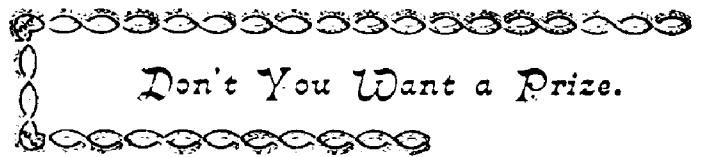
We, therefore, wish to particularly point out to all our customers that all our books or philatelic accessories are of first-class workmanship, and in every case bear the initial of our firm to safeguard against worthless imitations being palmed

off as our make. We would not have considered it worth mentioning these pirate articles, but we have recently been repeatedly asked whether they were our make, and customers have expressed their astonishment that we should publish such worthless wares!

A NEW PRIZE COMPETITION

INDEPENDENT of the one now being competed for by our readers, for the largest number of subscribers secured. We have decided in connection with our new English Album to offer a prize of two guineas for the collection most neatly arranged in one of these books. The prize will not be awarded to the greatest number of rarities, but what we wish to see is immaculate specimens of the ordinary class of stamps, and it is quite likely that the prize will be awarded to a collection from which the 41 anchor and cross are missing, together with the 2 - brown, if all the other copies are in fine condition. If necessary we shall award a consolation prize of 1 guinea for the next best collection should we receive two of almost similar merit. The entries will close on the 1st of July.

HARRY HILCKES.



FULL details of our New Prize Competition, the time for which is now extended to June 30th, have been given in our Nos. 8 & 9. Space forbids repetition in this issue, but we may inform new readers that the competition is so arranged as to ensure a prize to each competitor who secures six new subscribers to the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY. Full particulars and forms to fill up can be had on application to the Editors at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Applications by post should be accompanied by an envelope, fully stamped and addressed.



A PAPER by Mr. E. J. Nankivell will be read on Thursday, the 21st March, on the "Made for Collectors" Stamps, at 121, Cheapside, E.C., at 8 o'clock precisely, when a good attendance of Members is expected.

THE Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, *Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, *The Stamp Collectors' Journal*, *The World's Exchange*, and *The Million*.

From the Continent, *Revue Philatelique* (France), *Le Monteur du Collectionneur* (Luxemburg), *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift Voor Postzegelkunde* (Holland).

From the United States, *The Philatelic Journal of America*, *The American Philatelic Magazine*, and *Philatelic Facts & Fallacies*.
From Canada, *The Canadian Philatelist*.

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of the members at our meetings every Thursday, at Cossavella's, 121, Cheapside, E.C.

THE EXCHANGE PACKET.

The March packet has gone on its round, but the January packet is still out; surely it should have been back by this time.

Members are requested to send in their sheets for the next packet promptly to time; otherwise the Exchange Superintendent cannot guarantee their inclusion in the packet.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP,

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MARCH 9, 1895.

... Between Ourselves ...

MR. M. P. CASTLE, the foremost man in English philately to-day, has added his voice to ours in denunciation of the "gumpap." In the multiplication of speculative issues of stamps, Mr. Castle sees a great danger to philately—in fact, the only danger which threatens the future of our hobby. "I consider," says the Vice-President of the London Philatelic Society, "that all this unnecessary increase of new and speculative issues is a thing that we ought one and all to do all we possibly can to counteract." Sound advice this, and philatelists the world over will do well to heed it. To dealers, the hint seems more necessary even than to collectors, for while there are stamp merchants ready to accept "sole agencies" for bogus issues, and willing to sell all the gumpaps placed upon the market, there will be young collectors foolish enough to fill their albums with such artistic rubbish. That way madness lies. There are breakers ahead, and the crew of the good ship Philately must work with a will, and pull all together, if they are to keep the vessel on a safe course. Captain Castle—we must have our little metaphor—has given the word, and he is a skipper under whom none need hesitate to serve. Every philatelist who cares two straws for his hobby, will "stand by" to ward off the common foe.

* * *

SINCE the publication of our Christmas number we have received numerous letters from individuals and firms, unanimously thanking us for our exposure of the hopeless apathy and uselessness of the Philatelic Protection Association. Only in the few cases where some new point has been raised have we given publicity to these communications; but all have been carefully read, and the writers may rest assured that their good wishes are appreciated to the full. It now becomes necessary to say a final word concerning this fearful and wonderful Association. The eyes of P.P.A. members all over the country are now open to the true state of affairs, and as a natural result resignations are pouring in by the dozen. This is good, very good; but still better would it be to set about the construction of a real Philatelic Protection Association—a protection association which will really protect. The task should be easy were the right men to take it in hand. For our part we shall be delighted to vouchsafe such help as may lay in our power, but to others must be left the work of organising the new P.P.A. Slander is many-tongued and dies hard. We promptly scotched the foul lie that our crusade against the P.P.A. was the result of

personal spleen; but in fairness to the chances of the new Association we must hold aloof from its promotion. It would be said at once that we had "pulled down" the old in order to hold office in the new. We have now done with the existing P.P.A. As a mutual admiration society it is the finest thing out; as a Philatelic Protection Association it touches bottom. May we soon be able to welcome the first report of its successor!

We predict a time—would that the date were fixed!—when

"No Reprints Sold Here!" the line, "No reprints sold" will figure in the list of every stamp dealer. Whatever may be said for Seebecks and for "unnecessary issues," there is no defence for reprints.

They have no *locus standi* whatever. To say that they are a boon to the young collector who cannot afford originals is to talk trash. More often than not the young collector buys reprints for originals and the dealer does not bother to undeceive him. There are no two ways with reprints. They are not stamps issued to pay postage and they should not be sold as such. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons set a grand example to their fellow traders when they washed their hands of such rubbish. One by one others have followed suit, and within the past week we have received a by no means indefinite intimation that within a very short time a provincial firm of the very highest standing and repute will consign its large stock of reprints to the flames. Our readers will hear of this happy event directly it comes to pass. We shall not grudge a gratis advertisement on such an auspicious occasion.

* * *

WHEN we incorporated with this paper the STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY we promised to perpetuate the most popular features of that journal. From our correspondence we find that a very popular—perhaps the most popular—of those features was the practice of presenting a stamp gratis with each number to all postal subscribers. Accordingly we have decided to continue this plan in the FORTNIGHTLY. Commencing with No. 13 we shall present every postal subscriber with either a used or unused stamp. Obviously it is not possible to give a very good stamp away in a penny paper, but it will frequently happen that our publishers are able, by means of an astute purchase, to present a stamp which will at least be worth the face value of the paper itself. And it may be added that the greater our subscription list the better the stamp it will be possible to give, as a greater number can then be purchased. On this ground we think we may reasonably ask our regular readers to help us—as many are kindly doing already—by recommending the "S.C.F." to their friends.

* * *

WITH this issue of the FORTNIGHTLY a great number of subscriptions fall due. In every instance a green slip is sent with the paper intimating that such is the case, and we ask our readers to help us by sending in their renewals promptly, in order that the paper may be supplied without a break. That our readers like the FORTNIGHTLY we have had abundant proof, and we feel sure that they will show their goodwill further by doing as we ask. We desire no better testimonial than a promptly-renewed subscription.

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING MARCH 23rd.
All News for this column must reach the office first post on Wednesday previous to date of publication.

Auction Sales.
March 11.—Mr. Wm. Hadlow, at 13, Warwick Court, E.C., at 6 p.m.
" 12.—Mr. Wm. Ridout, at the Café Monico, at 6 p.m.
" 13 & 14.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Hall, Charing Cross, W.C. at 6 p.m.
" 20.—Messrs. Rochliffe & Co., at the Café Monico, at 6 p.m.
City of London Philatelic Club.
March 21.—Mr. E. J. Nankivell will read a paper on "Made for Collectors" Stamps.

Have you renewed? You will miss No. 13 unless you hurry up with that Eighteenpence.

The London Society's Dinner.

MR. CASTLE ON GUMPAPS—THE "FORTNIGHTLY'S" POLICY UPHELD.

ON Tuesday, February 26th, the Members of the London Philatelic Society dined themselves, wisely and well, at the Café Monico. Sixty-eight had promised to attend; forty-three turned up, and a very merry, genial forty-three they proved to be. In the regrettable absence of the Earl of Kingston, Mr. M. P. Castle occupied the chair.

The dinner was good, and the oratory that followed was the same, only more so.

Mr. M. P. Castle proposed the toast of the evening, "Success to the London Philatelic Society," and in the course of his remarks expressed regret at the absence through illness of the Earl of Kingston, Major Evans, Mr. Tilleard and various other members. As to the work of the Society, there was no doubt that the exhibition held last year to celebrate the Society's 25th Anniversary was a very great success, (hear, hear,) and had a powerful effect, not only in keeping the members together but in securing new ones. Speaking generally of the work of the Society, it had been attended by unbroken success (cheers). He could not give the figures absolutely, but he believed the members had grown in numbers, and not only that, but the interest and enthusiasm in the pursuit were ever increasing. Whether they turned to the Press, auction sales, or literature, they found that a pursuit that used to be looked upon in bygone years, as an amusement of children, had now grown into an interesting pursuit of men (hear, hear). He felt perfect confidence in the future well-being of their Society. There was only one thing, which he had already mentioned in other quarters, that threatened to detract from the future position of Stamp Collecting, and that was the abnormally excessive issue of speculative stamps (hear, hear). It was very difficult to see how we could stop such issues. There could be no doubt, that the endless multiplication of these issues constituted a serious danger to philately. He had said a good deal on this subject, but he felt justified in doing so, for it was one of the serious dangers looming the future of philately. The whole thing, from a financial point of view, was entirely a question of confidence, and once they destroyed that they would knock the bottom out of philately (hear, hear). Many of those present barred all these new things—they specialised; but his experience of philately taught him that the best specialists were the men who began by making small general collections. This alarming increase of speculative and unnecessary issues was a thing that they ought all to do all they possibly could to counteract (cheers). Reverting to the Society, Mr. Castle said, the London Society had taken its fullest part in the work of developing stamp collecting by bringing out elaborate books and treatises upon stamps; it had endeavoured as far as possible to keep clear of all quarrels—(hear, hear)—and had tried to do the thing on purely scientific lines. He felt assured that the wishes of every member of the Society, especially of the Committee, were to do all they possibly could for the benefit of philately.

This and the usual loyal toasts being duly honoured, Mr. Castle rose to propose another toast, in connection with the Society's presentation to Mr. Douglas Garth, the ex-Hon. Secretary. Mr. Castle was sure that all present would agree with him that their worthy friend, Mr. Garth, had carried out the duties of Hon. Secretary in the most excellent and impressive manner (hear, hear). Mr. Garth was he believed elected assistant Secretary in the year 1887; in the year 1889 he was chosen the Hon. Secretary, and from 1889 to 1895 he carried out the duties of that post with great satisfaction to all concerned. The gratitude of every member present or absent was due in the greatest degree to the gentleman who undertook the very arduous duties of Hon. Secretary, because the amount of work called forth on his part was really incredible. There was an immense amount of detail and "things to see to." Practically speaking, the success of the Society was bound up with the Hon. Secretary—(hear, hear)—and it was the very least they could do to give Mr.

Garth some slight moment of the appreciation they felt for the way in which he had carried out his duties. The intrinsic value of the article was small, but it would place on lasting record the kindly feeling they all had for its recipient (cheers).

Mr. Castle then made the presentation to Mr. Garth in a few well chosen words.

Mr. Douglas Garth, in returning thanks for "the great compliment that had been paid him," said he had never felt so proud since the day of his election to the assistant secretaryship in 1887, when their old Vice-President, the late lamented Mr. Tapling, patted him on the back and said, "Garth, your fortune is made; this is the greatest day of your life!" The glories of that occasion were entirely eclipsed by the pride and satisfaction of his position that evening. He took no credit to himself for the progress of the Society; he attributed it to two causes—first to the high standard of excellence and philatelic morality introduced into the Society by his predecessors, and secondly to their much commented-upon exhibition of 1890, which gave more stimulus to stamp collecting in this country than any other event (cheers).

Mr. Oldfield, in proposing the toast of the Philatelic Press, took much the same tone as Mr. Castle, urging it to be the duty of the Philatelic Press to fight all the speculative issues now flooding the market.

To this Mr. Edward J. Nankivell replied in a lively, well delivered speech. What Mr. Oldfield wanted the Philatelic Press to do was already being done by at least one paper—the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY—which was waging a spirited crusade against "gumpaps" (laughter and cheers).

The gathering after this became more informal, and the conversation more general. It is probable that no previous dinner of the Society was ever such an unmitigated success.

Special for the "S.C.F."

Forgers and their Work.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

(continued from page 95.)

CEYLON 9d. BROWN, perf. and imperf.



GENUINE.

FORGERY.

THIS on the whole is very badly done; the "p" in pence being badly drawn altogether. The specimen we photographed was evidently to be perforated, since the watermark is most distinctly to be seen through the paper of the stamp. It is the Crown C.C. If the design has been badly done, the shade is well-matched and hardly differs from the original stamp.

The 1s. 9d. GREEN, perf. and imperf.

Again the mouth is badly done, but unfortunately in this case it differs very little from the original. I possess a pair of this forgery which was passed by a very well known London expert as genuine, and on the strength of his opinion it was sold to a lady in the South of England. This forgery however differs from the original, all letters being uneven and the shading and filling-in of the design being badly executed. The surest test seems to me the word "Postage" in which the lettering is much thicker than in the original; the colour

Have you renewed? You will miss No. 13 unless you hurry up with that Eighteenpence.



GENUINE. FORGERY.

of the stamp also is not well made having a yellow tinge, but we have seen various copies which vary in shade. If the 8d. has a somewhat scratchy appearance, the one and ninepence is altogether scratchy; it seems as if the engraver was hurried over his work.

TWO SHILLINGS BLUE, perf. and imperf.



GENUINE. FORGERY.

I have seen this forgery in shades from a light ultramarine colour to a very deep blue. The photograph, owing to the fact that blue comes out very badly in any photo-zinco-process, does not come out very well but enough can be seen to distinguish the various points. In the first place, the lettering appears far too heavy in the forgery, especially the "w" in two and the down strokes in the two "N's." The W and O are too close together and the shading of the eye is far too heavy.

(To be continued).

The Minor Varieties of the Stamps of the United States.

(From the Post Office.)

The 1c. Stamp of 1851-1861.

This is catalogued both imperf. and perf. with a variety defined as "broken circle." The so-called "circle" is a curved line below the lower and above the upper labels of the stamp. When the stamp was first printed this curved line was unbroken in the annexed cut.

When perforation was adopted in 1857, the stamps, as printed from the plates, were found to be so near together that the perforation cut into the stamps, and so the device of removing portions, in order to provide more room for the perforation, was tried. This destroyed a part of the line at the top and bottom of the stamp, leaving it as in this cut.



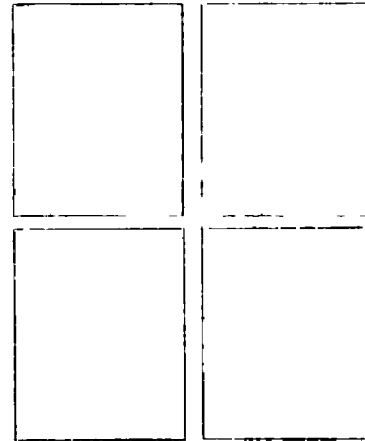
Inasmuch as what we have stated above is the history of this variety, it is difficult to see how it can exist in the imperforate stamp since it did not come into being until after the Government was perforating all its stamps. Collectors should examine the imperforate variety carefully to see that it is not cut down from the perforate. There are three varieties of this variety. One with both top and bottom line broken; one with top line only broken; one with bottom line only broken. The first is the common variety, the last two are extremely rare.

The supposition is that those having only one line broken come from the top and bottom of the sheet, it being unnecessary to provide room there for perforation.

The 3c. of 1851 to 1861.

The history of the 3c. red, with and without the outer line, is similar to that of the 1c.

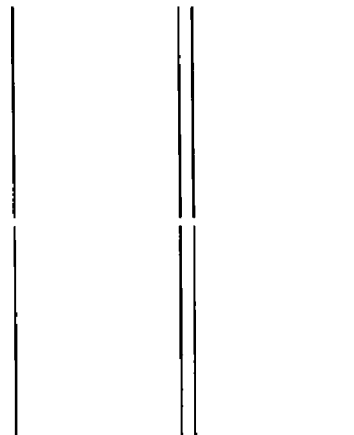
There were no lines, such as are referred to in the description, on the die, but in the preparation of the plate, from which the printing of the 3c. stamp was to be done, the surface was carefully laid off in rectangles as in our illustration:



The die of the stamp was then placed accurately in each rectangle, and by a process of rocking back and forth the plate was made ready for the printing.

The 3c. stamp of 1851 and the perforated variety with outer line, which is just like it, were both printed from a plate thus prepared.

When it was found necessary to provide more room for perforation, space was secured at the top and bottom of each stamp by providing a plate in which the horizontal guide lines were omitted, thus:



The printing then produced the 3c. stamp without the outer line at top and bottom, the common variety of the 1857 issue.

Five Cent of 1857.

The 5c. brown of 1851 was issued in 1857 in the perforated condition. The small ornaments at the top and bottom of the stamp were at first left entire.



But for the same reason as before, namely the need of more space for perforation, the ornaments at top and bottom were soon evicted. The work of cutting the ornaments from the dies seems to have been performed without much care, for we find these five cent stamps in various states. They may be spoken of as ornaments partly removed and "ornaments entirely removed."

Around the whole outside of stamp there runs a fine line. The horizontal portions only of this line at the top and bottom of the stamp are in some cases removed, leaving little angles in it at what were the two sides of the ornaments. This is the stamps with ornaments partly removed.



(To be continued).

Our Black List.

A MOST CIRCANTIC SWINDLE.

For some months past our publishers have been intently studying what purport to be copies of the provisional 40 paras on ½d. Levant. We are on the track of one of the biggest philatelic swindles ever perpetrated. The stock of one prominent dealer, numbering 113 of these stamps, was found to contain only seven genuine copies. The remainder were forged surcharges, and to complicate matters, there are some three or four varieties of the forgery! The forger must be quite an artist in evil-doing, for the majority of the forged stamps bear on the back the initials of a clerk in the Constantinople Post Office.

It will greatly assist our investigations if every reader who possesses a copy or copies of the 40 paras, on original cover, will kindly submit the stamps to our publishers for inspection. Further news of this swindle, with fullest particulars, will be given in an early number of the FORTNIGHTLY.

NAPLES ARMS AND CROSS.

A most magnificent forgery has been put on the market, properly engraved on steel plates, and closely resembling the real article. The ½ gran lake was a stock die; of course

this stamp is not a very rare one, but the maker evidently knew that in order to manufacture the ½ Tornese Arms and Cross, he had to start with this design. The difficulty to detect these forgeries is aggravated by the fact that each stamp on the plate had to be separately engraved similarly to the plate of the Sydney Views, and therefore all stampson the plate differ more

or less. However, the workmanship is so exquisitely done, far better than in the original stamps, that its very excellence is the best means to detect the fraud. After having printed a sufficient supply of the ½ gran lake, the maker altered the plate as was done with the original stamp, by simply erasing the "G" and inserting a "T" in its stead. From this again, a large supply was printed and once more the plate was altered. This time the whole centre was erased and replaced by the cross. So carefully was this done, that the shading lines surrounding the cross, even shew difference in workmanship of the original engraver, and the one who had to alter the plate. It may not be easy to detect this fraud, but any rare Naples which closely resemble our photographs, can be safely put down as forgeries. Of course the paper used is altogether different, being a kind of parchment, highly finished, whereas the original stamps are printed on a tough badly sized paper, quite in keeping with the resources of the paper manufacturers of the period.



FINLAND ENVELOPE, 20 COP. ROSE, 1845.

M. BREITFUSS, of St. Petersburg, writes us concerning this rare envelope:—"You have probably seen in my article about reprints of stamps, etc., of Finland (Philatelist of Dresden, 1854), that there are dangerous reprints of this envelope on *wore* and on *laid* paper, and I must repeat that the genuine envelopes must be on *Laid* paper. It is therefore very possible that your envelope is one of these reprints described in my article, or a dangerous imitation, of which some copies have been offered to me some time ago from Helsingfors. *These forgeries are extremely dangerous*, so that even *great connoisseurs* have taken them for genuine. My friend, Mr. Th. Notthafft, was very glad to find an entire envelope, having only a cut-square in his collection, and was willing to pay 1,500 marks for it. Before sending the money away, he called at my office, and I declared the envelope to be a forgery. This forgery was offered to Mr. N. by a dealer, of Helsingfors (Finland), who, thanks to Mr. Wasenius, a Helsingfors collector, has now been sentenced to nine months imprisonment for stealing stamps and selling forgeries."

English Stamps Used Abroad.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

(continued from page 93.)

- A25.
Malta. 1870, ½d. rose-red, plates 10, 11, 13, 14, 19.
1880, ½d. green.
1864, 1d. rose (large crown, perf. 14), plates 71, 72, 73, 74, 76, 79, 81, 84, 85, 86, 88, 89, 90, 92, 93, 94, 96, 98, 99, 100, 101, 103, 104, 105, 108, 110, 113, 114, 115, 116, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 127, 129, 130, 131, 133, 134, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 146, 147, 148, 150, 152, 153, 155, 156, 157, 158, 160, 161, 163, 166, 168, 169, 177, 181, 182, 188, 193, 197.
1880, 1d. venetian red.
1d. lilac, 16 dots.
1d. " 14 "
1858, 2d. blue, plates 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15.
1880, 2d. rose.
1875, 2½d. lilac-rose, plates 1, 2, 3 (anchor).
1876, 2½d. " " plates 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 (orbs).
1880, blue, plates 17, 18, 19, 20 (orbs).
1891, " plates 21, 22, 23 (crown).
1865, 3d. carmine, small letters.
3d. " plate 4 (emblems), 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20 (spray).
1855, 4d. rose on blue paper.
1862, 4d. orange, plates 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.
1876, 4d. vermilion, plate 15.
1878, 4d. sage-green, plates 15, 16.
1880, 4d. mouse-brown, plate 17 (garter).
1891, 4d. " plates 17, 18 (crown).
1856-1865, 6d. lilac, plates 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 (four flowers).
1867, 6d. " plate 6 (spray).
6d. bright violet, plate 6 (spray).
6d. violet, plates 8, 9.
6d. light buff, plates 11, 12.
6d. dark buff, plate 11.
6d. grey-green, plates 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 (spray).
6d. " plates 17, 18 (crown).
1876, 8d. orange.
1862, 9d., small letters.
1867, 10d. brown.
1856-1875, 1/- green plates 1, 2, 4 (four flowers).
1/- " plates 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 (spray).
1880, 1/- salmon plate 13 (spray).
1881, 1/- " " 13, 14 (crown).
1867, 2/- blue.
1880, 2/- brown.
1876, 5/- rose, plates 1, 2, 4, and present issue.
1878, 10/- grey-green (Maltese cross).

(To be continued).

He will be the gainer and you will have lost nothing.

Philately Abroad.

MUCH ADD ABOUT THIS STAMP.

IN America, a fierce controversy still rages around the alleged error of the 1890 issue, "the 5c. in colour of 4c." Mr. Henry Gremmel has said the stamp is a change-ling; others say it is a proof. The Messrs. Mekeel of St. Louis, alone declare that the stamp is a genuine error of colour. These gentlemen fix the price for a single copy at \$30 and guarantee to advance the price to \$50, as soon as they have sold twenty specimens. The "last word" up to date is uttered by Mr. R. F. Albrecht, in a letter to Mr. W. W. Jewett, of the *Weekly Philatelic Era*. Mr. Albrecht adheres to his formerly-expressed opinion that the stamp is a proof. When (he says) I received a sample of the stamp from Mr. Anton Ammann, I noticed that it was of a queer shade, but not at all of the same color as the 4c., and I went to the American Bank Note Company to ascertain the true nature of the stamp. There I was told that of the 1890 issue all the values were printed in different trial colors, for the purpose of allowing the proper government officer to select the colors in which the issue should be printed. The gentleman in the Bank Note Company, who gave me the information I was anxious to obtain, pronounced the stamp I showed him as undoubtedly genuine and *from one of those trial sheets*. How it was possible that they got into the hands of outsiders he was unable to explain.

POSTAL INSURANCE IN AMERICA.

AMONG the bills to come before the American Congress during the present Session, is one providing for a Government system of postal insurance. It is proposed (explains Mr. Quackenbush in *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*), to insure all fourth-class mail matter against loss at the following rates: Five dollars in value of fraction thereof 10 cents; for additional value up to and including \$10, 15 cents; to and including \$20, 20 cents; to and including \$50, 30 cents; to and including \$100, 40 cents. In case this bill becomes a law and the proposed system is adopted, a series of postal insurance stamps are among the possibilities of the future, and stamp collectors will, therefore, watch the progress of the bill with interest.

PHILATELIC FLOWERS.

WITH some people, (says the dear disdainful *Lady's Pictorial*), stamp collecting is a perfect mania, and therefore they may like to hear of a novel use to which old stamps were recently put. At a ball in Germany, a spray of very natural-looking artificial flowers was exhibited, and so fine and exact was the workmanship, and so clever the joining of the various designs and colours, that it required very close inspection to detect the flowers were made of old stamps, each stamp of course being cut and manipulated to suit the requirements of the case.

Our Forum.

**** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.**

SHOULD COLLECTORS "BUY FOR A RISE?"

DEAR SIRS,—*Re* gumpaps, whatever others may have done or intended to do, I have ignored these since their first appearance, and took care to let others know, including Mr. Harold Frederic, who said *The Million* "would pat me on the back" if I stuck to my determination. Seebecks, French Colonials, Chinese and other locals, Liberia, Labuan, Portuguese Celebration and surcharges, &c., &c., all come, I consider,

under this head; and yet I have managed without these to get together a collection of about 5,000 varieties, and that only since 1889, though I was a collector before, and like so many others, sold my collection at school.

I should like your opinion as to the right or wrong of collectors buying with a view to keeping duplicates that will rise in value, such as the obsolete Leewards and the better class of U.S. I have done this the last three or four years, and now have some 1,000 duplicates which are really worth something, viz., the 1, 6, 10, 12 and 15 U.S., 1869, and the 90c. purple, carmine, and orange, the last 2½d. and 4d. of the obsolete Leewards, 2½ gulden Holland, &c., &c., besides a number more valuable than these, 1/- green Cape, 5c. black Newfoundland, 30 and 24 cents, 1869, U.S., 6d. Montserrat and Nevis, &c.

Of course this aids the rise in values, but at the same time perhaps prevents dealers from doing the business they otherwise would, for they must turn over their money, and cannot afford to store up stamps and wait for them to rise. One dealer told me I was wrong, but I think anyone may buy what is fairly offered for sale. Yours truly,

W.B.E.

London, 25th February, 1895.

THIS MAKES US BLUSH.

DEAR SIRS,—I am very pleased to see that you are making such rapid progress. The last number (Feb. 23rd) is to my mind the best up to now of a series of most instructing and entertaining numbers. We have just what we wanted, and can only grumble at the impossibility of getting more for so small a subscription.

G. A. P.

Leytonstone, 2nd March, 1895.

Answers to Correspondents.

**** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.**

W.G.F.—In perforating postage stamps a die-plate is placed below the needles of a machine carrying 300 needles. As about 180,000,000 holes are punched per day, the wear on the die-plate is excessive; brass plates wear out in a day, and even steel plates are rapidly destroyed. The use of aluminium bronze has caused the die plates to last for months without renewal.

W.S.H. (Huddersfield)—Your kind suggestion will be kept in view. We are always glad to get hints from our readers as to what subjects would best interest them.

A. W. B. (Liverpool)—No price is quoted in any catalogue we have seen for the U. K. Telegraph Stamp you mention. It is one of those things that are worth just what they will fetch.

W.H.S. (Bradford)—Thanks. We will endeavour to supply such an article in an early number. See also answer to "W.S.H."

A LEARNER! The stamps you describe are just the ordinary "red pennies" and are of no value.

L. B. (Clapton)—With pleasure.

G. F. (Upper Tooting)—Glad you liked the article on foreign-postmarked English. It is continued in this issue. Your emendation is noted with thanks.

Printed for the Proprietors, HARRY HILCKES & Co., LIMITED, by MESSRS PARDY & SON, Philatelic Printers, 5, The Triangle, Bournemouth, and Published at 64, Cheapside, London.



THE STAMP

COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1895.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

Class a—Superb condition, if unused with gum, (mint state), if used, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post-marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

Continued from page 10.

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., February 18th, 1895.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Antigua, 6d. no wmk., pair unused	..	..	0 14 0
c	Barbados, 5/- lake, thinned	..	..	1 0 0
a	British Guiana (1862), 1c. rose, pearls, No. 17 on plate, unused	..	..	16 0 0
a	Ditto, ditto 2c. yellow, crossed hearts, No. 7 on plate, no roulettes, unused	..	..	9 10 0
a	Ditto, ditto 4c. blue, rosaces, No. 23 on plate, unused	18	10	0 0
a	Ditto 1c. on 4 dollars, "Inland Revenue," unused	0	5	0 0
c	Ceylon, 2c. brown, perf. 12½	..	..	0 13 0
a	Great Britain, 8d. brown, pair unused	..	..	9 10 0
a	Ditto Single specimen of same	..	..	4 15 0
b	Ditto £1 purple, Maltese cross	..	..	1 2 0
a	India. Service provisional, ½ anna lilac and green, block of 4	..	..	1 12 0
a	Labuan, 16c. blue, C.A. sideways, sheet of 10 unused	3	0	0 0
a	Ditto ditto, C.C. inverted, ditto	..	..	2 16 0
a	Ditto 2c. green, C.A., ditto	..	..	1 1 0
a	Ditto 8c. light purple, C.A., ditto	..	..	0 15 0
a	Ditto 8c. carmine, C.C., block of 6 unused	..	..	0 17 0
b & c	Mauritius (1860) 1/- green, no wmk., strip of 4	..	..	1 6 0
c	Ditto Post Paid 1d. on bluish, worn plate	..	..	1 0 0
c	Ditto Britannia, green, unused	..	..	0 15 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 2, 2 fetched each	1	2	0 0
b	Ditto ditto 2d., plate 1	..	..	1 16 0
a	Ditto, ditto 2d., plate 2	..	..	1 6 0
b	Oldenburg, ½ gr. black on green, unused	..	..	4 0 0
a	Philippines, 1r. in red on top. brown, "Derechos de Firma," unused	..	..	1 16 0
c	Queensland, 1d. imperf., unused	..	..	1 1 0
c	South Australia, G. F. in black on 2d. perf. 10	..	..	0 11 0
b	Ditto N. T. in black on 2d. roulette	..	..	0 12 0
c	Soruth (1867), 1a. black on pink wove	..	..	0 10 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue, strip of 3, Nos. 15, 16 & 17	..	..	6 10 0
c	Ditto 1d. red, no wmk., pair	..	..	0 14 0
c	Ditto (1863), 1d., wmk., 2, penmark	..	..	2 10 0
b	Ditto (1870), 4d. blue, strip of 3 and single, unused	4	10	0 0
b	Tuscany, 1q. on white, block of 40 unused	..	..	16 0 0
a	United States. Columbus, 3 dollars green, pair on part original	..	..	1 12 0
a	Ditto, ditto 4 dollars, similar pair	..	..	2 0 0
c	Victoria, 4d. emblems, star wmk., roulette	..	..	1 2 0
c	Ditto 2d., fine background, nicked, on original	..	..	0 16 0
b	Western Australia, 1st issue, 4d. roulette, unused	..	..	3 3 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, February 20, 21 & 22, 1895.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Barbados, 5/- pink, unused	..	..	4 8 0
c	Ditto, 1d. on half of 5/-, used on piece of newspaper	..	..	4 10 0
a & b	Bavaria, 12kr. lilac, perf., 4 averaged	..	..	1 8 0
a	Belgium, 1st issue, 10c. brown, pair unused	..	..	1 1 0
a	Brazil, 2nd issue, 180 reis	..	..	2 0 0
c	Ditto ditto another, corner mended	..	..	0 10 0
b	Ditto ditto 300 reis	..	..	0 13 0
a	Ditto 280 reis red, perf., unused	..	..	1 5 0
b	Bremen, 5sgr., percé en scie. 4 on piece of original	..	..	2 12 6
c	Ditto similar lot, one damaged	..	..	2 8 0
c	Ditto 10gr., percé en scie, nicked	..	..	1 14 0
a	Ditto 2gr., perf., on original	..	..	1 8 0
a	Ditto 7gr. black on yellow, perf., on original	..	..	8 15 0
b	British Columbia, 10c. pink and blue, unused	..	..	2 17 6
c	Ditto 1 dollar green, some perfs. missing	..	..	1 1 0
b	British Guiana (1851), 1c. black on magenta	..	..	3 0 0
c	Ditto ditto, 4c. black on blue, 2 fetched each	..	..	1 0 0
c	Ditto (1853), 4c. light-blue, unused	..	..	0 11 0
c	Ditto (1856), 4c. black on magenta, corners clipped	..	..	3 7 6
b	Ditto (1862), 2c. black on yellow, grapes	..	..	3 12 6
c	Ditto ditto another, roulette one side	..	..	2 15 0
c	Ditto ditto 4c. black on blue, hearts and pearls	..	..	5 10 0
c	Brunswick, 1sgr. black on yellow, percé en scie	..	..	2 6 0
a	Canada, 7½d. green, large margins, penmark	..	..	3 3 0
a	Ditto another, postmark	..	..	2 8 0
a	Ditto 10d. blue, unused	..	..	3 10 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 1d. red	..	..	5 5 0
a	Ditto, not so fine	..	..	2 15 0
b	Ditto another, brick-red, cut close	..	..	1 8 0
c	Ditto error, 4d. red, small margins, printing partly cut through paper	..	..	32 0 0
c	Ditto 4d. blue, 2 fetched	..	..	2 2 0
a	1d. red on bluish, block of 8 on original	..	..	1 4 0
b	6d. lilac, roulette, sold on its merits	..	..	1 12 0
c	Ceylon, Imperforate, 8d. brown, slight tear	..	..	6 15 0
b	Ditto ditto 9d. violet-brown, cut rather close	..	..	1 18 0
c	Ditto ditto another	..	..	0 17 0
b	Ditto ditto 19 green, unused	..	..	2 6 0
b	Ditto another, used	..	..	2 10 0
b	Ditto ditto 2 - blue	..	..	3 3 0
c	Ditto 8d. yellow-brown, slight tear	..	..	4 0 0
b	Ditto 8d. brown, unused	..	..	5 5 0
c	Ditto 5d. red-brown, no wmk., thinned	..	..	1 2 0
a	Ditto 9d. brown, no wmk.	..	..	1 0 0
b	Ditto 2 rupees 50 cents	..	..	2 6 0
c	Columbia (1862), 20c. red, cut to shape	..	..	1 10 0
a	France, 1st issue, 10c. bistre, 2 unused	..	..	0 9 0
b	Ditto, Presidency, 10c. bistre, unused	..	..	0 7 0
a	French Colonies, 4c. grey, imperf.	..	..	1 8 0
a	Gold Coast, 20/- green and carmine	..	..	4 10 0

Great Britain. All unused unless otherwise stated.

b	The V.R., fine, but no gum	..	..	11 0 0
a	1d. red, small crown, perf. 14, die 2, 2 shades	..	..	2 6 0
b & c	2d. blue, without line, 3 averaged	..	..	1 13 0
c	2d. blue, small crown, perf. 16	..	..	1 0 0
a	Ditto, large crown, perf. 14, 6 averaged	..	..	1 10 0
b	10d. brown, octagonal, plate 4	..	..	2 10 0
c	Another, plate 3	..	..	1 18 0
c	6d. violet, octagonal, pair, stained	..	..	1 5 0
c	A single specimen, slight tear	..	..	0 15 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
c	1/- green, octagonal, pair, creased and mended	3	3	0
c	A single specimen, ditto	1	0	0
c	Two specimens, both cut into	1	2	0
b	1½d. red, imperf.	0	14	0
b	2½d. lilac-rose, plate 1, 2 shades	1	4	0
a	Another, plate 2, error, lettered L. H. and F. L.	6	6	0
a	Another, plate 3, anchor	0	18	0
a	Ditto plate 17, a pair	1	18	0
b	3d. rose, small letters, 4 shades	0	11	0
a	Ditto wmk. spray, plate 4	2	15	0
b	Ditto wmk. flowers, plate 4, 2 specimens	0	9	0
a	4d. mouse-brown, garter, plate 17, corner pair showing control mark	2	0	0
a	4d. vermilion, plate 15, imperf	0	18	0
b	6d. light buff, plate 12, slightly stained	1	14	0
a	Another	2	0	0
a	6d. grey-green, plate 12, pair and a single	1	5	0
c	6d. lilac, plate 8, strip of 4	1	8	0
a	Ditto block of 20	5	0	0
b	8d. orange, block of 4 and 4 singles	4	0	0
b	9d. bistre, plate 2, 2 copies, one with control mark	0	15	0
a	1/- green, plate 2, pair	2	7	6
b & c	Ditto 4 averaged	0	9	0
b	Ditto plate 4, 2 copies	0	15	0
b	1/- salmon, plate 13, both varieties of wmk.	1	4	0
a	1/- green, plate 5, pane of 20	5	15	0
a	Ditto, plate 11, block of 12	4	0	0
a	Ditto ditto, block of 4	2	2	0
b	1/- salmon, plate 14, a pair and 3 singles	1	6	0
b	2/- red-brown	2	6	0
c	Another, not so good	1	1	0
a	2/6 on bluish, 2 averaged	1	3	6
a	5/- rose, plate 1	1	4	0
c	Ditto, plate 4, on bluish, thinned, but fine	5	0	0
a	£1 anchor, "Specimen"	4	10	0
a	£5, orange, used	2	14	0
b	Another, on bluish, used	2	12	6
2a 1c	Ditto, pair and a single, used	5	15	0
b	Ditto, "Specimen"	1	1	0
a	Ditto, ditto, on bluish, 2 averaged	1	6	6
c	"I.R. Official," 10/- blue, mended	0	12	0

b	Hanover, 10gr. green, unused	2	17	6
c	Another, used	1	16	0
b	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown, 2 copies	1	16	0
a	12c. on 10 dollars, unused	0	13	0
b	1 dollar brown on red, without Chinese surcharge, unused	0	14	0
a	India, 4as. red and blue, block of 12, unused	14	0	0
a	A similar block, with more margins	23	0	0
a	2as. green, unused	3	12	6
c	Service, 4as. green and lilac, mended	2	0	0
b	Ditto, 8as. green and lilac	10	0	0
b	Labuan, 8c. on 12c. red	2	2	0
a	Lagos, 2/6 olive-brown, unused	3	0	0
c	Levant, 6kop. blue, large square, mended, unused	0	15	0
a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1-l. vermilion, early state	4	0	0
c	Ditto ditto another, cut very close	2	0	0
a	Ditto ditto late state, on piece of original	1	1	0
b	Ditto ditto another, very late state	1	0	0
a	Ditto ditto 2d. blue, PENOE	7	0	0
a	Ditto ditto another error, not so early state	4	0	0
b	Ditto ditto 2d., 3 early state averaged	1	18	0
b	Ditto ditto ditto, 2 late state averaged	1	5	0
b	Ditto small fillet, 2d. blue, 2 copies	1	2	0
c	Ditto Britannia, 4d. black and green	1	5	0
a	Ditto ditto magenta, unused	0	17	0
b	Ditto ditto ditto, 3 used copies	1	1	0
a	Mexico, 4r. red on white, gothic surcharge	1	8	0
b	Ditto (1868) 100c. brown on brown	1	16	0
a	Ditto ditto 12c. black on brown	2	10	0
a	Monaco, 1st issue, 5 francs, unused	2	4	0
a	Montserrat, 4d. blue, C.A., lightly postmarked	5	0	0
a	Naples, 50gr. lake	2	16	0
c	Ditto another	1	4	0
b	Natal, 1st issue, 1d. blue, strip of 3 on entire, penmark	5	5	0
b	Ditto ditto, 1/- buff	1	6	0
c	Ditto 1/- green, surcharge 12mm. long	1	4	0
b	Ditto another, fine	3	10	0
a	Ditto 2½d. on 4d., inverted surcharge, unused	0	7	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Natal, ditto, strip of 3 unused, middle one with two surcharges	1	5	0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose, 2 averaged	2	16	0
b	Ditto 6d. grey, unused	2	4	0
c	Ditto another, heavy postmark	1	3	0
a	Ditto 1/- green on bluish	5	0	0
b	Ditto another, on greyish, unused, no gum	3	5	0
a	Ditto 1/- yellow-green	3	0	0
a	Ditto 1/- blue-green	1	16	0
a	Ditto (1883), 6d. green	6	10	0
a	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	3	7	6
c	Ditto 1/- mauve	13	0	0
c	Ditto the Connell, unused, perfs. partly clipped	12	0	0
a	Newfoundland, 6d. orange-vermilion	2	15	0
c	Ditto another, mended	1	0	0
c	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. red, plate 1, 2 unused copies, both stained	20	0	0
a	Ditto ditto ditto strip of 3	8	10	0
a	Ditto ditto 2d. blue, plate 2	3	12	6
c	Ditto ditto ditto plate 3	1	1	0
b	Ditto ditto ditto plate 4	1	6	0
c	Ditto ditto ditto plate 5	0	16	0
b	Ditto ditto 3d. green, on entire	1	5	0
b	Ditto ditto ditto	1	5	0
b	Ditto ditto 3d. dark green, on entire	1	16	0
c	Ditto ditto 3 others on entires averaged	0	18	0
a	Ditto laureated (1851), 1d. carmine, pair (one no leaves on right)	2	12	6
b	Ditto ditto ditto, 3d. green, block of 4, on entire	2	0	0
c	Ditto ditto (1853) 1d. orange, strip of 4, unused	1	10	0
a	Ditto ditto ditto 3d. green, WACES	1	8	0
b	Ditto (1854), 6d. grey-brown, wmk. 8, unused	4	0	0
c	Ditto ditto 8d. orange	0	18	0
b	New Zealand, 2d. blue on blue paper, strip of 8, unused	40	0	0
a	Ditto 1/- green on blue	2	0	0
b	Ditto 2d. pelure, imperf.	1	5	0
c	Ditto ditto, ditto, perf.	0	10	0
a	Ditto 6d. brown, pelure, perf.	1	0	0
a	Ditto 4d. dark yellow	1	18	0
b	Norway, 1st issue, 4sk. blue, unused	1	8	0
a	Ditto another with gum	2	0	0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown	1	4	0
a	Ditto 1/- dark violet, with 1d. red-brown, as used together	23	0	0
a	Ditto, 8½c. green	1	1	0
b	Oldenburg, 1st issue, ½sgr. 2 copies	1	12	0
b	Ditto 2nd issue, ½sgr. unused, no margins	4	0	0
b	Ditto another, fine margins, but stained	4	0	0
c	Ditto another, pink, of lines	1	16	0
b	Ditto 2nd issue, 2sgr., unused	1	14	0
a	Ditto 3rd issue, ½sgr., unused	2	2	0
b	Ditto another, without gum	1	8	0
a	Pacific Steam Navigation Co., 1r. blue, unused	1	10	0
a	Ditto another, used	5	10	0
c	Ditto another, used, slight tear	4	4	0
a	Ditto 2r. red-brown on bluish, pair unused	2	7	6
a	Peru, Medio Peso yellow, 2 copies each	1	18	0
a	Ditto, ditto pair unused, one with two surcharges	1	0	0
c	Philippines, 1st issue, 5c. orange, unused	1	16	0
c	Ditto litho, 5c. vermilion	1	1	0
c	Ditto 1th. issue, 1, real blue, "Habilitado por la Nacion"	3	0	0
c	Queensland, 2d. blue, imperf., torn	1	10	0
a	Ditto 6d. green, imperf., on piece of original	2	2	0
c	Ditto 5/- pink, vertical pair, imperf. between	1	8	0
b	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown	3	7	6
a	St. Vincent, 4d. orange	2	7	6
a	Ditto another, with four 1d. red on piece of original	2	12	6
a	Ditto another with two 1d. black ditto	2	12	0
a	Ditto another with 6d. green ditto	2	15	0
a	Saxony, 10gr., blue, unused	1	8	0
a	South Australia, 1d. green, imperf., 2 pairs, averaged	3	1	6
b	Ditto 3d. red on 4d. blue	1	0	0
a	Ditto 2d. orange, perf., 10 x roulette	0	10	0
b	Ditto 6 others averaged	0	9	0
c	Ditto 10d. blue on yellow, perf., impression at back	2	0	0
c	Ditto P.S. on 3d. black and blue, perf. 10	0	17	0
b	Ditto O.S. on 9d. mauve	1	0	0
b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½ rappen	4	10	0
a	Ditto Neuchatel, 5c.	2	15	6

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No reports to hand on going to press.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING was held at the "Alexandra Hotel" on Monday, February 25th, 1895, the President, Mr. F. B. Bradbury, in the chair.

There were twenty-four members and three visitors present.

During the evening, Mr. T. Whitworth read an excellent paper on "the Stamps of the United States, and treated this interesting study in a very careful manner, giving in detail a history of the various issues.

The information was of a very useful kind and the paper was highly appreciated.

Mr. Von Lobbe exhibited Greek and Swiss Stamps of which he has a fine collection. He also shewed complete sets of Oldenbergs, used and unused, including fine specimens of $\frac{1}{2}$ Silber Groschen, 1852; pair of $\frac{1}{2}$ Groschen, 1852; $\frac{1}{2}$ Groschen, 1858; and $\frac{1}{2}$ Groschen (moss green), 1860.

The Liverpool Philatelic Society now numbers sixty members, some of whom have important collections.

It is a Society that is growing, and will continue to grow as Philately is spreading fairly well in Liverpool.

LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the eleventh meeting on January 25th, Mr. T. H. R. Crowle was elected a member. Mr. Ehrenbach got a hearty vote of thanks for an interesting paper on "Fashion in Stamps."

At the thirteenth meeting, on February 8th, Dr. Emilio Drew was elected a member. Mr. Tilleard then read a paper entitled "Notes on the 'De la Rue' series of the Adhesive, Postage, and Telegraph Stamps in India," in which was embodied a considerable amount of official information in reference to the stamps in question. As an appendix to the paper there was added a copy of an official list of postage stamps of India, prepared by Lieut.-Col. Mainwaring in 1871, with corrections and additions made by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. in 1883, and containing the manufacturers' own description of the stamps made by them for the Indian Government. An interesting series of essays of the new two rupee stamp which is about to be issued, and essays of the proposed new wrappers, kindly lent by H.R.H. the Duke of York, were produced for inspection by the members present.

BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MEMBERS assembled for the annual general meeting at Markwell's Hotel, Brighton, on Monday, January 14th. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. A. de Worms), submitted a very satisfactory annual report, and the balance sheet for the past year, ending December 31st, 1894, showing that the Society is in a prosperous condition. The report and balance sheet were received and adopted. Mr. Thrupp being unable to attend the meeting, the Hon. Secretary read his report of the Exchange Circuit for the past year, which contained suggestions for some alterations in the rules. The report and suggestions were adopted.

The Officers and Committee for the ensuing year were then all unanimously re-elected, with the exception of Mr. Woodman, who resigned, and Mr. Thrupp was elected in his place.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting held on February 2nd, Mr. John H. Thackrah, Vice President, read an instructive paper on the "Fourpenny Stamp of Great Britain. The President, Mr. F. K. Skipwith, was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members, with Mr. C. Quarkowsky, of the Bradford Society, present as a welcome visitor. The Senior Hon. Secretary announced that the society were to lose the services of his colleague, Mr. John F. C. Sieber, who had tendered his resignation on account of his approaching removal to Perth; and on the motion of the President, it was resolved to accept the same, the President expressing on behalf of the members their feelings of regret at the loss of so capable and esteemed a fellow-member.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Monthly Meeting of this Society was held at 1, Cheapside, on Tuesday evening, the 5th March. The President, Mr. Oliver Firth, occupied the chair. A display took place of the Stamps of the United States, with a discussion on such Stamps, which was opened by Mr. W. K. Skipwith, of Leeds, in a very able manner. Mr. Skipwith illustrated his remarks by a very good collection, belonging to his father. The next meeting of the Society will be held on Tuesday, the 2nd April, when the President of the Society promises to open a discussion on the Stamps of Nova Scotia, which he will illustrate with his own very fine collection of these Stamps.—W. H. SCOTT, Hon. Sec., 1, Piccadilly, Bradford.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The eighth meeting of the Session was held at the Blackfriars' Hotel, Manchester, on Friday, January 18th, fourteen members being present, with Mr. Grunewald in the chair.

After the formal business, Mr. J. C. North read an interesting communication on the Post Office and conveyance of mails at home and to foreign parts, with rates of postage chargeable, taken from "an abridgement of the Statutes in force and use in the year 1687 (third year of King James the Second).

Mr. E. Petri read a paper on the Postage Stamps of Sicily, and exhibited his collection of Sicilian stamps, pointing out the differences between the genuine and forged stamps.

The ordinary fortnightly meeting of the Society was held on Friday, February 1st, at the Blackfriars' Hotel, Mr. J. H. Abbott in the chair.

Mr. G. B. Duerst read the first part of a paper on the Postage Stamps of Roumania. By decree of May 1st, 1858, the first stamps were issued for the principality of Moldavia, consisting of four values, 27, 54, 81, and 108 paras. These are all scarce stamps now, especially the 81 paras, which has the distinction of being the most valuable European stamp, being worth about £100. Naturally there are a tremendous number of forgeries of these stamps, some being forged in the country whilst the stamps were in use. In 1858 a reduction of postage led to a new issue of five, forty, and eighty paras. In 1862, stamps now appeared with the combined arms of Moldo-Wallachia, in three values, three, six, and thirty paras. In January, 1865, three values were issued, two, five, and twenty paras, with a portrait of Prince Couza. In July, 1866, the same three values made their appearance, with portrait of Prince Charles of Hohenzollern, printed on white paper, later on changed to coloured paper. Subsequent issues appeared in 1868, 1869, 1870, and 1871, all in the new currency of bani (100 bani—ten pence.)

In addition to Mr. Duerst, Messrs. Beckton and Abbott also showed interesting collections of the numerous varieties of Roumanian stamps. At the next meeting Mr. Duerst will read the second half of his paper.

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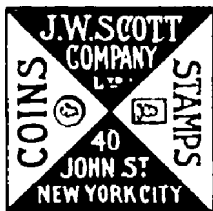
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The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

Published every alternate Saturday at 64, Cheapside, E.C.

No. 13.—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

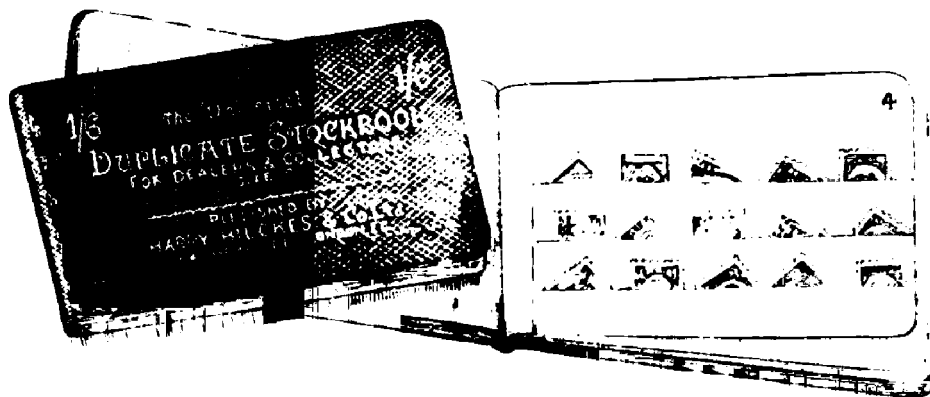
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WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE

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WHEN A

NUMBER OF RARE STAMPS

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DATES OF SALE, 1895.

March 28 and 29
April 18 and 19th

May 7 and 8, and 23 and 24
June 13.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, In announcing their Future Dates, beg to draw attention to the following important Sales:—

March 28 & 29.—By Order of Executors, a FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION, including the following Rarities:—Great Britain, V.R., France, 1 franc orange, Austria, 30kr., head of Mercury, Spain, very fine, including 3cts., Madrid, unused, 2 reals of 1851, 1852 (both unused) and 1853, Naples, ½ tornese cross and 50gr., Tuscany, 3 lire, very fine, 2 soldi and 60 crazie, Modena, large B.G., Oldenburg, complete, Levant, Provisionals, unused, a fine Collection of Russian locals, Saxony, 3pf., Basle, 2½r., Zurich, 4r. and 6r., Moldavia, 54p. and 108p., Ceylon, 4d., 8d., 1/9 (a pair) and 2/- imperf., Cape of Good Hope, woodblocks and error, 1d. blue, Mauritius, early 1d., 2d. and 4d. green, British Guiana, 1850, 12c. blue, 1856, 4c. majenta, 1862 Provisionals, Philippines, a fine lot, Dominican Republic, 1st issue, 1 real and medio real, South Australia, 10d., wmk. Crown and SA. and P.S. on the 3d. red and blue, West Indies, a fine lot, including Provisionals, St. Vincent, lithographed Trinidads, Virgin Islands, 1/- used, Bolivia, 500c., 9 and 11 stars, Brazil, 180, 300 and 600c., Buenos Ayres complete, fine, Colombians, Antioquia, 1st issue, 2½c. blue and 1 peso, Bolivar, 10c. green, Mexico, 3 centavos, Peru, medio peso yellow, also a superb lot of United States, including the Brattleboro, St. Louis, 10c. (3 types), a fine lot of locals, used, 1869, 15c., inverted centre, Departmentals complete, and an unique Collection of entires, Confederate States, Tellico Plains, an unused pair 5c. and 10c., &c., Canada complete, except 12d., Newfoundland, 1/- orange, and others too numerous to mention.

April 18 & 19.—A very fine selection, including Ceylon 8d., 9d. and 1/- imperf., Nevis, complete, fine, Naples, ½t. blue, 4 fine specimens on entire envelope, unique, Tuscany, 2 soldi, unused and 60 crazie, New Brunswick, 1/-, Nova Scotia, 1/-, Canada, 6d. green, fine, Natal, 1/- buff, magnificent specimen, 3d. blue, wmk. star, unused and imperf., Great Britain, 4d. on blue, unused and fine, 9d., with hair lines, Peru, medio peso, rose, superb, Trinidad, the Lady McLeod on entire, torn, pairs of lithographed, Mauritius, very early state, 1d. and 2d., a superb pair, Queensland, 1st issue, 2d. blue, on entire, fine, and pairs of the rare 2 6 and 5/- unused.

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Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper,

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THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

CONDUCTED BY HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

Published every alternate Saturday.

No. 13.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:
 The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	105
Scientific Philately Made Easy	105
English Stamps Used Abroad	106
Philately at Home	106
Our Black List	107
City of London Philatelic Club	107
Between Ourselves	108
Free Gift of Stamps	108
Philatelic Events	108
Death of the Grand Duke Alexis	109
Minor Varieties, U.S.A.	109
Forgers and their Work	110
Philately Abroad	110
Our Forum	111
Answers to Correspondents	112

Philatelic Personalities.

MISS MOLLIE GUNDERSON, of North Dakota, U.S.A., "has succeeded in collecting two million stamps and has left for Chicago to have a pair of artificial legs fitted to her." For this delicious "par" much thanks, oh, *Medical Record!* The association of stamps and legs is a bit startling at first, but—come to think of it—we use our legs to stamp with, so why not use our stamps to get new legs with? Miss Gunderson is imbued with a strong sense of the fitness of things.

* * *

WOULD it be possible, we wonder, to reverse the order of things, and get stamps for legs? For a sufficient recompense in Mauritius P.O.'s and £1 Anchors one might be tempted even unto amputation.

* * *

WE have lost our Vindin. He went out of stamps some time ago, and now he has forsaken England for Coolgardie. On Monday, the 11th, quite a crowd of philatelists, professional and amateur, assembled to see him off; and there was much regretful hand-shaking and handkerchief-waving and a vast deal of hearty good wishes. One gentleman—normally the staidest of the London stamp dealers—was "visibly affected," as the junior reporter hath it.

Mr. Vindin, by the way, has promised to "write up" anything philatelic that comes across his path for the FORTNIGHTLY.

* * *

THAT is a tall story from Berne about the young stamp collector who wrote to Marshal Yamagata and got a complete set of Japanese stamps on the cheap. The Central News must be congratulated upon its Berne correspondent. That worthy, whoever he may be, will do something great one of

these days. He will discover the sea serpent off the coast of Switzerland, or peradventure give us something special and exclusive about a disaffection in the Swiss Navy.

MR. E. STANLEY GIBBONS, in some notes he has just sent home to the *Monthly Journal*, mentions the remarkable fact that there are still people—and civilised people, too—who are in utter ignorance of the existence of stamp collecting as a hobby. Mr. Gibbons met one such, a clergyman, while steaming across the Pacific.

REMOUR associates the name of a young and up-to-date city dealer with that of one of the oldest and most respected stamp dealers, which will probably mean the infusion of new blood into an already prosperous business.

SIR EDWARD GUINNESS, if we may believe *Pearson's Weekly*, is an ardent stamp collector.


SIR HENRY BESSEMER, of steel fame, is not without interest to stamp men as the inventor of the machine by which embossed dead stamps are printed upon the paper of the document itself. The invention saved the Government an annual loss, by robbery, of about £100,000, and yet Bessemer (according to *Asa's*) did not get so much as a farthing for his services or the use of his invention.

MR. GIWELB, we hear, has just taken a shop in the Strand, opposite that of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

Scientific Philately Made Easy.

I.—PERFORATIONS.—By DR. BRYANT.

IT is now more than 47 years ago that the first experiments in perforating postage stamps were made by Henry Archer and, therefore, the greater number by far of philatelists have no possible recollection of the discomforts and annoyances attached to the previously existing methods of separating stamps of all kinds. Without doubt knives and scissors were plentiful, but those who employed them cared little for the appearance of the labels which they more or less mutilated in the separating process. All the London, as well as numerous Provincial post-offices, were bountifully furnished with scissors, and we are quite sure that when perforation was officially adopted, the cutlery trade must have suffered to some appreciable extent. But it is far easier for all of us to imagine the evils and drawbacks, and the great delay caused in the transaction of postal business, occasioned by the use of scissors and knives in separating labels, than it would be for the writer to describe. Only those who know both "the old and the new" methods by practical experience can understand this wide difference.

Has your friend Jones seen this paper? If not, 

Henry Archer was a native of the "Emerald Isle," but like so many of his countrymen sought his fortune by proceeding to England, where in the course of some few years he distinguished himself by forming a railway company, "The Festiniog or North Wales Line," and of which he was successively secretary and manager. This line, however, became dissolved, and we find Archer returning to his native land for a short time, during which he followed the profession of an engineer. And it was no doubt during his leisure hours that he thought out and devised—on paper, at least—the embryo perforating machine. His idea was hardly so novel in principle, for paper was perforated for certain purposes long before, but it was the novel application of such a principle.

In July, 1847, he submitted to the then Postmaster-General, the Marquis of Clanricarde, his proposals for separating postage stamps by perforation. He informed that august official that he had designed a machine for the proposed purpose, and which was destined, as he says, "for piercing the portions of the paper intervening between the labels by a series of cuts, in such a manner as to admit of their being detached singly without use of knife or scissors." Now, it seems to us, that in order to be so confident of the value of his proposal, Archer must have practically tested his idea by means of a model perforating contrivance. From the fact that three, if not four, varieties of perforation in English postage stamps occur on the entire covers or envelopes dated *previously* to 1854, and also that it is certain he made three experimental trials, we cannot but believe that he had experimented with some kind of machine *before* submitting his proposals to the Postmaster-General. It is certain that these proposals received little courtesy at the hands of the postal officials, who moreover were opposed to any further reforms or innovations—for different reasons. Even Sir Rowland Hill (as we shall show) was lukewarm on the subject of perforation being adopted.

(To be continued.)

English Stamps Used Abroad.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

(continued from page 103.)

- G.
Gibraltar. Large type of "G," 1d. red, large crown, perf. 14.
" " 4d. rose, no letters.
" " 6d. lilac, "
" " 1/- green, "
Small type " 1d. red, large crown, perf. 14.
" " 4d. rose, no letters.
" " 6d. lilac, "
" " 1/- green, "
- A26.
Gibraltar. 1870, ½d. rose red, plates 4, 5, 10, 12, 14, 15, 20.
1880, ½d. slate green.
1857, 1d. rose red, large crown, perf. 14.
1864, 1d. " plates 78, 102, 129, 136, 145, 155, 157.
164, 168, 192, 195, 196, 198.
1880, 1d. lilac, 14 dots.
1d. " 16 "
1d. venetian red.
2d. blue, plates 7, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15.
2½d. lilac-rose (anchor), plates 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 (orbs).
2½d. blue, plates 17, 18, 19, 20 (orbs), 21, 22, 23
(crown).
3d. carmine, small letters, plates 4 (emblems), 5, 6,
7, 9, 10, 11, 14 (spray).
4d. carmine (small and large garter).
4d. orange, plates 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14.
4d. vermilion, plates 15.
4d. sage-green, plates 15, 16.
6d. lilac, no letters, plates 3, 4, 5, 6 (emblems), 6,
8, 9 (spray).
6d. light buff, plates 11, 12.
6d. dark buff, plate 11.

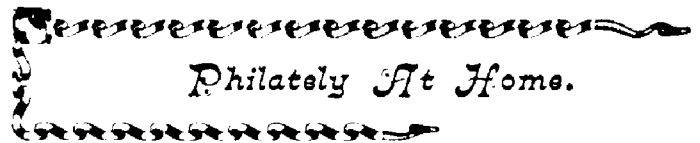
- Gibraltar. 1880, 6d. gray, plates 12, 13, 14, 15.
9d. straw, plate 4 (spray).
10d. brown, plate 1.
1/- green, no letters, small letters, plate 4 (emblems),
4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 (spray).
2/- blue, plate 1.
5/- rose, plate 1.
1880, ½d. slate.
2d. rose.
2d. lilac.
2½d. lilac.
4d. green.
6d. green.

Bot.

- Alexandria. 1d. rose-red, plates 99, 127, 130, 131, 133, 140, 145, 174.
2d. blue, plates 9, 13, 14.
3d. carmine, small letters.
3d. " plate 4 (emblems), plates 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12,
19 (spray).
4d. carmine on blue paper (small garter).
4d. orange, small letters (hairline), plates 7, 8, 9, 10, 11,
12, 13, 14.
4d. vermilion, plate 15.
6d. lilac, plates 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 (emblems).
6d. lilac, plates 6, 8, 9 (spray).
6d. light buff, plates 11, 12.
6d. dark buff, plate 11.
6d. gray, plates 12, 14, 15.
9d. bistre and straw, plate 2 (emblems).
9d. straw, plate 4 (spray).
10d. brown, plate 1.
1/- green, no letters, small letters, plate 4 (emblems),
plates 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 (spray).
5/- rose, plates 1 and 2.

(To be continued.)

It has been decided to form an Exchange Society, which would solely occupy itself with English stamps used abroad. It will be arranged in such a way that every member will obtain "first pick" once—that is to say, the Secretary will not have first pick every month, but will forward the packet intact. A subscription of 10/- will be charged to defray clerical expenses, as a special clerk will have to be engaged for the purpose of keeping the accounts. Nine members are already enrolled. Anyone who wishes to join will please send his name to my office, 64, Cheapside, when he will receive printed rules, &c. H. H.



Philately At Home.

MR. PHILBRICK'S VIEWS.

THE subject of English Stamps postmarked abroad is one which has been sadly neglected. It has interest in itself quite enough to warrant more research than English collectors appear to have given to it, and it is somewhat of a reproach to us that the Germans have with characteristic pains and thoroughness done so much in this direction for the stamps of their empire.

But, though they are first, our field is a larger one and will require even more investigation.

Very little is known of English postmarks. In one of our London Directories, the No.'s of each of our Inland Offices was given. I think it was Kelly's P.O. Directory about 1857? I am not quite sure of the year. Again the Postal Guide once gave them, but now they have long been omitted. Recently a new system, shewing in plain characters date and time of posting, has been adopted in some London P.O.'s. The first requisite is to get at a list; many imperfect attempts have appeared, but no one has had the courage to properly tackle the task.

Each of the three kingdoms has a fresh series. Thus, Aberdeen is 1 in Scotland, and so on. Ireland again began a set. The Colonies and other places I used to think were the AO's and BO's, but I find sundry AO's used by English

Send us his address and we will gladly post him a specimen copy.

offices, and no doubt BO's are also. I expect no regularity will be found.

The sending of certain sheets abroad has long been supposed to account for the rarity of some of the 1d. plate Nos.

You have here a first class field of research—all your own. You can make the *STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY* a great reputation and power if you take this subject up and work it properly.

In the city you ought to find help from collections from offices with Colonial constituents?

PAID BACK IN OUR OWN COIN.

Is reviewing a certain forgery handbook we wrote, "Not to be too carping, we might suggest a little more thoroughness in proof reading." And now a Leeds correspondent, good-humouredly hurls the phrase back at us, in special reference to one of our "Auction Supplements," in which a Philippine stamp was described as "1d. issue, 1. real blue, Habilitado." Our correspondent pleads ignorance (as well he may) of any "1d. issue" of Philippines, and "what shade of blue," he asks, is "real blue?" Of course the line should read, "1st issue, 1 real, blue, Habilitado." The blunder is almost humorous enough to enjoy an honoured place in the annals of that most august body, the Society of Correctors of the Press.

THE STATUS OF NATIVE STATES' STAMPS.

It is difficult to open our *Indian Philatelist*—the ably conducted journal of Mr. B. Gordon Jones, of Calcutta—without lighting upon something to interest us. In the February issue an attempt is made to answer that oft recurring question, "What is the true status of the native states' stamps of India?" The *Indian Philatelist*, by way of reply, divides the states into four classes, those in class I. being really genuine stamps, issued to meet a genuine postal want, all of these being eminently collectable, classes II. and III. being less desirable in ratio, and class IV. being altogether beyond the philatelic pale in our estimation.

Class I. The surcharged series of Chamba, Faridkot, Gwalior, Jhind, Nabha and Puttalla; Cashmere and Deccan, (Hyderabad.)

Class II. Alwar, Bhopal, Faridkot, (1st issue, rough lithographed), Holkar (Indore), Jhind (native issues), Nepal, Rajpipla, Scinde Dawk, Sirmoor, Soruth (early issues), and Travancore.

Class III. Bhor, Cochin, Jhallawar, Nandgaon, Poonch and Wadhwan.

Class IV. Bamra, Cashmere (all reprints), Faridkot (re-engraved issues), Hyderabad (Serkari reprints), Nowanuggur, Sirmoor (reprints) and Soruth (later issues and reprints).

WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THIS?

THE following was sent to our office anonymously, enclosed in an envelope which bore the Hampstead postmark. After wrestling with it for some time in vain we have decided to submit it to our readers.

A badly used stamp
Is a much abused stamp,
And if you treat it so,
It will soil, it will spoil,
And its perforations go.—R.O.T.

Doubtless there is something very deep and abstruse about this which we have failed to grasp. If not, the signature is suggestive and well-chosen.

ARE THE CONGO STAMPS GUMPAPS?

QUITE by chance we have ascertained that a syndicate of Belgian stamp dealers have purchased the remainder of the last issue of the Congo stamps, with the special stipulation the values of 5 and 10 centimes are to be printed in a new colour.

Our Black List.

OLD ITALIAN STAMPS AND FORCED POSTMARKS.

VERY large quantities of remainders and reprints have recently been offered from Italy, all duly postmarked on original envelopes. In a future number we shall give a

detailed article fully illustrated, but thought it best to give our readers a timely warning. These forgeries are mostly offered from Genoa.

THE "40 PARAS" SWINDLE.

We shall not be able to present a full history of this swindle in the present number. Meanwhile, we once more ask our readers to send us any specimen they may have, for inspection. Out of about 40 stamps we had sent to us from various quarters for examination, only *one* was genuine. We have been asked to initial genuine copies; this we will do if a postal order for 1/- together with return postage accompanies any request. We make no charge in the case of forgeries.

BRUSSELS FORGERIES.

A FACTORY on a somewhat large scale, has been discovered in Brussels, but the attempt was fortunately nipped in the bud. The following are some of the stamps of which imitations more or less cleverly executed were found on the premises.

U.S.A. 1869, 10 cents.—Hardly any copies have got into circulation, perhaps none have actually passed into collectors' hands; the whole swindle seems to have been stopped by the fact that the perpetrator of this fraud had not sufficient funds to go on. Anyhow, no proof has been brought forward by the prosecution that the plates discovered were sufficiently advanced for finished impressions to be taken from them:

Monaco, 5 francs, 1st issue, and Congo 5 francs, 1st issue.—Finished copies of these have been discovered and it may be taken for granted that at least some forgeries have been circulated.

Mauritius, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, have also been forged, but the specimen found was surcharged, "facsimile." However, nothing would have prevented the maker from selling any of these without the surcharge. Anyhow, we would warn our readers against all the above. If any of our Brussels friends would be able to send us the forgeries in question for a day or two, we might be able to photograph them.

City of London Philatelic Club.

THE EXCHANGE PACKET.

The January packet has come to hand. All accounts have gone out, and members are requested to settle same promptly, to enable the Secretary to send early remittance. Sheets for April packet should be forwarded without delay.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY*, *The Philatelic Record*, *The Monthly Journal*, *A. Smith & Sons' Monthly Circular*, *The Monthly Post*, *The Philatelic Advertiser*, *The World's Exchange*, and *the Million*.

From the Continent: *L'annonce Timbrologie* (France); and *Welt Post* (Austria).

From the United States: *The American Journal of Philately*, *The Metropolitan Philatelist*, *The American Philatelic Magazine*, and *The Post Office*.

From Canada: *The Dominion Philatelist*.

From Australia: *The Australian Philatelist*.

From India: *The Indian Philatelist*.

Also *L'araldo Timbrologico e numismatico* and *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt* (from M. Camaschalla).

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of the members at our meetings every Thursday, at Cossavella's, 121, Cheapside, E.C. No meeting on March 28th.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP,

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MARCH 23, 1895.

.. Between Ourselves ..

INDIA has its McKinley. What was done in America under the McKinley régime (if we may believe our Indian contemporaries) is being repeated in our Eastern Empire—stamps imported into the country are being taxed! The practice is so unjustifiable, so unreasonable, and so much opposed to English thought and custom that there must be some mistake somewhere. Either some pettifogging jack-in-office has exceeded his powers or the law of the land is being misinterpreted. For it was surely never contemplated by the Indian legislature to place a tax upon stamps brought into the country for collectors. Such an idea is opposed to all reason. Used stamps, strictly speaking, are entirely valueless. Philatelists prize them dearly, but in the estimation of the general public the prices they fetch in the philatelic market are purely "fancy" values. Very well then; how can we tax that which is worthless? We hope the matter is not really serious, but the fact that the Indian philatelic journals are advising philatelists not to take their collections away with them when visiting Europe is significant. And just when philately in India was nicely booming, too!

Is mending faking?—that is the question of the moment.

One very able letter on the subject appears in "Our Forum," and others are held over until our next issue on account of the great pressure on our space. When the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY first made its appearance there were plenty of people ready to prophesy that we should never be able to fill eight large pages every fortnight; yet here we are, at the end of six months, with so much good matter on hand and such a vast deal of better matter coming along that we are seriously contemplating a permanent enlargement to twelve pages. But that is digression, which is not good form. Is mending faking? We appeal to our readers to take part in this discussion, for it is one that means much. Space or no space, every letter of importance we receive shall be published. It is in the hope of getting perfectly candid and unbiassed opinions that we at present withhold our own views on the subject.

THERE are things about philately that "no fellah can understand,"—at least, one can imagine a Dundreary Science saying as much. There are certainly many for all. "things philatelic," which are not understood of the people, and to make these things clear, is our object in commencing the articles on Scientific Philately

which begin in this issue of the S.C.F. The first article, one dealing with the important subject of Perforations, will be found on page 1. Perforations will be followed by Watermarks, Paper, Printing, Colours, and all the other minutiae of Scientific Stamp Collecting. The importance of such things is not to be over-estimated. One occasionally meets a fairly advanced philatelist who is as innocent of the technology of Stamp-making as the babe unborn. He is the man who misses bargains, and "gets it in the neck" in the matter of forgeries and fakes.

It will not have escaped the attention of the careful reader that we have lately eschewed the word "Gumpaps," "gumbugs" and re-enthroned our earlier fancy, "gumpap." The reason will be obvious to many. "Gumbug," though the better word of the two, is not a nice sounding word; and our readers have told us so in no uncertain voice. Therefore, as our object is to gain the greatest possible vogue, for the word finally chosen we have reverted to Dr. Bryant's "gumpap," while in our heart of hearts preferring Mr. O. Wilson's far more genuinely contemptuous "gumbug." Now for our reason for drawing attention to the change. There are various of our contemporaries, which, by referring to our articles on the subject, and by using the word, are helping us very greatly to "spread the light" and nail down the coffin-lid of the made-for-collectors stamp. To these contemporaries we specially direct this intimation of the change of word. In a matter of this sort, where all genuine philatelists must pull together for the good of the cause, uniformity is of paramount necessity.

To Postal Subscribers.

PLEASE find on this space a ½-cent Stamp of North Borneo, presented gratis to postal subscribers only.



... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING APRIL 6th.

All News for this column must reach the office first post on Wednesday previous to date of publication.

Auction Sales.

March 28 & 29—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 5 p.m. each day.

March 27—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W., at 6 p.m.

Tapling Collection.

The following countries are now on view in the King's Library, British Museum: West Indies (including British Guiana, &c.), and South America.

City of London Club.

Weekly Meetings at 121, Cheapside, Cossavella's Restaurant, every Thursday, at 7.30 p.m.

Owing to Messrs. Ventom's Sale no Meeting will be held on Thursday (28th inst.)

London Philatelic Society.

Every alternate Friday at Eflingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

London Philatelic Exchange.

March 26—121, Cheapside, E.C., Cossavella's Restaurant.

Philatelic Protection Society.

Have you renewed? You will miss No. 14 unless you hurry up with that Eighteenpence.

Death of the Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch.

PHILATELY may indeed be said to be the poorer for the early death of the young Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch of Russia, which took place at San Remo on the 2nd instant. Although he was but nineteen years of age he had already made himself a name and reputation as a keen philatelist, and the fact that he was making considerable progress with the history of the Postal issues of Russia, gave rise to great hopes of a useful philatelic career. But in his own immediate circle it was recognised that consumption was rapidly sapping the young life and that an early death must be the inevitable result.

The end has come, the albums and the philatelic work have been laid aside for ever. Whether any equally enthusiastic fellow-countryman will be found to complete the much needed work that he had begun, remains to be seen. It is, at all events, to be hoped that what has been done will be published not only in his own language, but also in English.

His Imperial Highness Alexis Michaelovitch was the youngest child of the Grand Duke Michael Nikolajewitch, brother of the late Czar, Alexander II. He was therefore first cousin of the present Czar of Russia. He had five brothers and one sister, Anastasia. One of his brothers, the Grand Duke Alexander, married the Grand Duchess Xenia, eldest sister of the Czar. The deceased Prince was born on the 28th December, 1875. He has been busy with his philatelic researches for many years, more especially with his semi-official work of the Postal Issues of Russia, which he intended to make both exhaustive and complete. Up to the very last he is said to have been actively devoted to his hobby, and some of the very last letters he ever wrote are said to be addressed to philatelic friends. He corresponded regularly on philatelic matters with Dr. Lindenberg and other leading German philatelic authorities. Any books published bearing on his hobby were immediately enquired for and added to his library, no matter in what language they were printed. Had he lived, in all probability he would have added considerably to our philatelic shelves, for he certainly seems to have had as strong a bent for philatelic study and



authorship as for collecting pure and simple. The loss to philately is therefore a very serious loss. So highly placed as he was, avenues of information closed to the ordinary plodding philatelist would have been readily available, and, when given by him to the philatelic public, would have been doubly welcome because of the imprimatur of its Royal authorship and the consequent reliability of the information.

As a collector he had a keen eye for genius. Some of the finest specimens, including plates, were quickly "amalgamated" from the Australian collection of Mr. Castle. He also "amalgamated" the Peru portion of Mr. Köster's collection of South American Stamps, sold to a London dealer some time since. The prince, it is said, bought this Peru portion entire for £500.

He was by no means selfish of his treasures: few responded more readily than he did to the invitation of the Exhibition Committee of the Philatelic Society of London. He immediately forwarded

for the Exhibition of rare stamps which was held at the Society's Rooms in May of last year, an exquisite collection of Russian Essays, besides many rare stamps of Spain, Switzerland, Hanover, Oldenburg, Nevis, Trinidad, British Columbia, Bergedorf, etc., all bearing pretty clear evidence that they must have come from well filled albums.

On the 29th of Dec., 1893, he was, at his own request, elected an ordinary member of the Philatelic Society of London; his proposer on this occasion was the Duke of York.

Every member of the Society will keenly feel the loss it sustains by the death of the young Grand Duke. And there is no question that by those members who were cognisant of the modest manner in which the prince insisted upon being elected, and who knew of the generous and splendid manner in which he took part as an Exhibitor in the last Exhibition, his death will be mourned as that of an active and promising member from whom, had Providence spared him, much earnest philatelic work might have been expected in the future.

The Minor Varieties of the Stamps of the United States.

(From the Post Office.)


(Continued from page 102.)

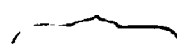
The broader inside line in our illustrations represents the body colour of the stamp. The cutting away in some instances not only removed the fine outer line at the top and bottom of the stamp, but also cut off this body colour, in some instances leaving but a fine line of it between the loop-like white ornamentation on the stamp and the edge; in others none at all. The angles in the fine outer line are also gone. This may be called ornaments entirely removed.

There are a great many small differences to be noted in the stamps of a sheet in regard to the extent to which the ornaments have been removed. There is often a little differ-

ence to be observed between the top and bottom of the same stamp in cases where the perforation does not cut into it so as to prevent observation. However, the result of as careful a count of a sheet as could be made was, ornaments partly removed, forty; ornaments entirely removed, sixty.

The Fifteen Cent of 1869.

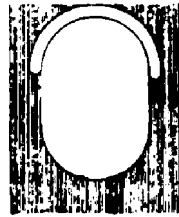
The two varieties of the 15c. of 1869 are variously described. Sometimes they are called picture framed and without frame; again, they are spoken of as with or without the diamond. Along the top of the central picture in the less valuable variety of this stamp may be seen three lines like these:  This is known as the frame. These three lines are entirely absent in the more valuable variety known as "without frame."

The portion of the stamp printed in brown in this case has an unfinished appearance along the top of the central picture. The shape of this unfinished part is similar to that of the frame which has been removed, and is like this cut. 

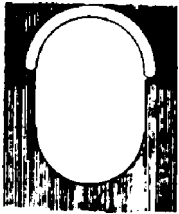
Have you renewed? You will miss No. 14 unless you hurry up with that Eighteenpence.

One Cent 1872 and 1882.

The principal difference between the 1c. of 1872 and the same re-engraved in 1882 is illustrated by our cuts, which, although not in the least like the stamps themselves, nevertheless will show the way to distinguish these varieties. The vertical lines of the ground of the 1c. of 1872 are very fine and of the same width throughout, so that the ground appears even and without shading.



The vertical lines of the 1c. of 1882 re-engraved become coarser as they approach the top of the stamp, so that it appears shaded.



The printing of the 1c. re-engraved is such that in many instances the lines run together at the top of the stamp to such an extent that it is difficult to see that they are lines and not solid colour.

Three Cent 1872 and 1882.

The most noteworthy difference between the 3c. stamp of 1872 and the same re-engraved in 1882 is seen in the shadow beneath the oval containing the bust.



This is broad and clearly defined in the 3c. of 1872 being caused by the presence of numerous fine horizontal lines crossing the vertical lines of the groundwork at right angles.



The shadow beneath the oval in the re-engraved 3c. is very faint, and in many instances unobservable, the fine cross lines being much less distinct and in some cases scarcely to be discovered with a good microscope.

Six Cent 1872 and 1882.

The 6c. of 1872 contains three distinct grades of shading. The horizontal lines within the central oval are coarse and close together, so that they appear as solid colour in many cases. The lines on the shield are a little farther apart and finer, while the vertical lines on the outer frame are even finer and still farther apart. These three ways of engraving the lines make three shades in every 6c. stamp of the 1872 issue.



The vertical lines of the frame were so fine that when the plates became worn they very nearly disappeared. This is the explanation of the so-called "plain frame," which is no real variety, but only a defective specimen.

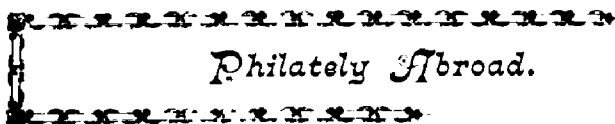
(To be continued).

Special for the "S.C.F."

Forgers and their Work.

By HARRY HILCKES.

Owing to an abundance of matter, we are obliged to hold the continuation of this article over till next number.—Ems.

**Philately Abroad.****THE INTERNATIONAL STAMP.**

THERE is a serious difficulty in the way of the international stamp. This difficulty can be readily illustrated by reference to the British, German, and Austrian systems. At present

our 2½d. stamp does the work of the 20 pfennig German or the 10 kreuzer Austrian stamp; but while a pound sterling purchases 96 of the first, it can also buy 102 of the second and 120 of the third. Thus it would be obvious economy for English letter-writers, if an Austrian 10 kreuzer stamp could be used here for the same purposes as our own 2½d. stamp, to import stamps from the realms of the Emperor Franz Josef.

SELLING OF FORGED STAMPS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE IN RUSSIA.

A BILL is now being prepared by the Russian Government to make the sale of forged stamps a criminal offence. Moreover it will be punishable whether such offender sold the stamps by mistake or whether he had a guilty knowledge of their spurious character. Banishment to Siberia is one of the rewards for such mis-directed energies. Fancy, who would have thought that Russia of all countries should make the first step in this direction. We wonder how many London dealers would still be seen at their usual place of business had a similar law been in force in this country for, say, the last six months.

INLAND POSTAGE IN GERMANY.

A LETTER weighing ½oz. costs 10pf. or 1½ penny, within the precinct of the German Empire, but a letter weighing 250 grammes (8½oz.) only requires a postage of 20pf. or 2½d. German traders have long been aware of the fact that while English and French postage is only 8 pfennig (1 penny and 10 centimes respectively), they have to pay 25 per cent. more; and consequently an agitation has been set on foot to increase the weight limit of 15 grammes (½oz.)—with a negative success so far however. Some ingenious plotter has now designed the following revenge, which leaves little to be desired in smartness and effectiveness. He proposes that every commercial house should, for one month, increase the weight of its letters to about 250 grammes, the limit for the 2½d. postage by inserting in each letter a tablet of lead weighing about 200 grammes. If this was carried out universally the result would be, that the Imperial mail-bags would increase from 10 to 15 times its present bulk, whereas the extra revenue, would only be twice its former figure. He believes that this increase in the bulk of the mail matter would absolutely paralyse the carrying arrangements of the Post Office, and the authorities would thus be obliged to submit to the public demand of an increased weight limit, which demand seems to be quite reasonable.

If we add that in 1893, about 1200 million letters were carried by the German Mail, or 100 million per month, each weighing on average about 10z., an idea of the magnitude of this ingenious device may be obtained, since the increase in the weight of one month's mail matter would be something like 20,000 tons.

The German mind is nothing if not thorough.

ST. ANDREW'S CROSS.

THE "D.B.Z." disagrees with the deduction arrived at by Dr. Bryant in his article on the above subject, (see Nos. 10 and 11 of S.C.F.) and maintains that it has been conclusively proved that this cross was the postmark of the little town of Ferrara. Nothing has so far appeared in English literature, but we will make enquiries and publish the result in a future number.

"Y 3" CUBA.

WE had a detailed article on the meaning of this Surcharge in our Christmas Number, (No. 6), by Mr. G. A. Padro, who being a native of this Colony and having had access to all official decrees etc., was best able to reply to the somewhat feeble essay which appeared in the *Echo de la Timbrologie*, and of which we gave a translation in order to better illustrate Mr. Padro's article. Apparently the latter has not agreed with the views in a leading German contemporary, as we notice a somewhat high-handed remark in No. 6 of the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, which in the first place disagrees with Mr. Padro's explanation, but winds up by saying that it was wonderful that Mr. Padro had not heard of the latest work on this subject by Rud. Friederich. Mr. Padro has heard of the work referred to, but is not aware

If you don't file your "Fortnightlies," pass this number on to a friend; —

as to precisely what statements are made therein. He will, however, read the work in question and, if necessary, correct any mistakes the book may contain.

Anyhow, a most thorough search is being made for all official documents bearing on this subject, and Mr. Padro will publish the result of his labours in an early number. To our German friend we would wish to say that because one specialist differs from another, neither is necessarily a fool. "Errare humanum est" and no one knows the truth of this saying more than the earnest philatelist. Let us hope that we may not be obliged to apply this proverb to the conclusion arrived at by the "D.B.Z."

A NEW SOCIETY FOR SEVILLE.

SPAIN is waking up. We have received from Don Angel Pulin, of Seville, the statutes of the newly formed "Sociedad Filatelica de Sevilla," which seems to be starting its career under very favourable auspices.

"WHO WRITES THE MOST LETTERS?"

In glancing through a recent number of *L'Union Postale*, the Official Organ of the Postal Union, we came across the following interesting statistics on the subject of letter writing:

England	..	53'34	letters per head per annum.
BELGIUM	..	25'50	" " " "
FRANCE	..	18'00	" " " "
RUSSIA	..	2'14	" " " "

But the following figures will no doubt be a surprise to everyone. Newspapers are received as follows:

SWITZERLAND	..	30'00	Numbers per head.
GERMANY	..	18'30	" " " "
BELGIUM	..	16'41	" " " "
England	..	7'14	" " " "

However, since these figures only represent the postal deliveries no account has necessarily been taken of newspapers sold through the newsagents; if these were added, England would be an easy first.



**** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.**

ARE REPRINTS COLLECTABLE?

DEAR SIRS,—I am just a little worried over a point of "stamp ethics." Of course forgeries are rigidly excluded from my album, but I think reprints (marked as such by means of one of your very useful little rubber stamps) are permissible. Now, I have to-day seen a set of U.S.A. newspaper stamps, 1875 issue, which are marked in letters of this size (FAC-SIMILE) on the front of each. Should such facsimiles be classed with reprints and admitted, or with forgeries and excluded? Of course a reprint is a print from the original plate, but a facsimile must be produced from an *unofficially* engraved one. What is your opinion on the matter?—Yours sincerely,

H. J. T.

If further proof were wanted that reprints and facsimiles are interfering with the legitimate trade, the above letter received from one of our readers would be conclusive. The above-mentioned facsimiles are absolute forgeries, which were placed on the market some years ago with the mistaken idea that they would help to console young collectors for the bareness of certain pages in their albums. Let us emphasize once more, *anything* which is not printed from the plates used by the Government cannot be but a forgery. Anything which is printed from the plates as used by a Government without in any way differing from the original issue is a Reprint.—Eds.

"ALL STAMPS WARRANTED GENUINE."

DEAR SIR,—In sending with much pleasure the renewal of my subscription, I am tempted by a paragraph on the burning question of Reprints to offer a few remarks, either for your

private ear and then the oblivion of the "W.P.B.," or for the wider circle of your readers.

I have before me the Retail list of a large firm whose wares are scattered broadcast through this and many other lands and where advertisements, like the poor, are always with us. I read in bold type, "Dealers in Postage Stamps," and also (not so bold) *all warranted genuine*. Within are announcements of all sorts and sundry, among them many of reprints of the most flagrant description, and not a word to indicate their true character!

Now, Sir, I maintain that Reprints are not *genuine*; that any firm announcing on their list, "All stamps guaranteed genuine," and offering therein Reprints for sale, are guilty of nothing more or less than fraud. I have not hitherto seen this contention in print, but to me it appears the true one. How then can it be genuine?

I would therefore prepare an amendment of this (and many other) firms' lists. Let the announcement read, "Dealers in Postage Stamps; all warranted genuine," and in "Reprints sold on their merits." I join you heartily in the wish that all dealers may follow the good example set in more than one quarter, and, by cutting out all such rubbish, become once more "sans peur et sans reproche."—Faithfully yours,

C.J.S.

Kingston-on-Thames, 15th March, 1895.

IS A MENDED STAMP A FAKE?

Sir,—Many collectors will doubtless rejoice that you have opened your columns to a discussion as to the true status of mended stamps.

Mended stamps may well be divided into two classes, one, in which portions of a stamp being missing, these missing parts are supplied in the shape of pieces of other stamps of similar colour and design; the other, in which the stamp is complete and merely mended so as to appear a perfect specimen. The first class of "mend" is undoubtedly the worst and should I think be considered a "fake direct." In the poultry fancy a bird improved by the substitution or addition of feathers or by being painted or dyed is "faked" and disqualified as such by the judge, and so to my mind a stamp adorned with perforations other than its own or in any way sporting borrowed plumes should be at once written down a "fake" and the man who has done this thing should be considered a "faker."

And now with regard to the second class of "mend": may we call it a "fake circumstantial" or "fake" according to circumstances? So long as a collector or dealer retains such a stamp in his own collection, well! he has the stamp, the whole stamp, and nothing but the stamp, he is honest though perhaps foolish; if he sells it letting its condition be known, he still maintains his honesty and it is the purchaser who is foolish, but if he sells the stamp as a perfect specimen, or if by his silence he leads the purchaser to suppose that it is a perfect specimen, if in fact he sells it for what it is not, then, the old adage "caveat emptor" notwithstanding, I consider that he is acting dishonestly and that the stamp under the circumstances becomes a "fake."

No doubt others will make out a stronger case than mine against mended stamps but I should imagine that it will be difficult indeed to find anyone so bold as to take up cudgels in their defence.

FIDELITER.

John C. N. (Manchester).—(a) There was no necessity to specially mention the 6d. variety with or without hyphen, seeing that plate 6 is the last *with*, and plate 8 the first *without* hyphen.—(b) Your variety of watermark, four flowers close together, means simply that the sheet of paper became misplaced in the press, each stamp showing the left and right part of two different watermarks thus:—



He will be the gainer and you will have lost nothing.

Answers to Correspondents.

* * * We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

G.W.B. (Bristol).—You have a Penny Stamp of the imperforated series of Great Britain in which the lettering in the corners is not exactly in the centre of the square. This constitutes no variety. These letters are inserted in the plate by hand, and thus are easily misplaced.

W.J.P.O. (Leicester).—(1) You are not the only one who cannot distinguish the two dies of the rd. Red English. This is what our publishers' "Complete Priced Catalogue of all Postal and Telegraph Adhesives of Great Britain" says:—

"The two dies may be distinguished from one another by the eyelids. In die 1, the upper eyelid is very indistinct, and the lower one quite invisible. In die 2, both eyelids are well marked. The lines in the shading of the face were deepened, and slight alterations were also made in the profile of the nose and in the hair."

to which we have nothing to add. (2) Here again we must refer you to our publishers' "Catalogue," which explains the "K variety" of the small letter 1/- green as follows:—

"The 'K' variety is so called on account of a white circle round the letter K in the lower left corner of the stamp lettered KD. The one lettered NA has two dots in the right-hand upper corner of the square containing the left-hand plate number."

(3) It would take too long to give you all particulars about surplus registration sheets; on page 56 and 57 of our publishers' Catalogue everything is most carefully explained.

J.W.M. (Manchester).—Only those who are on our list of postal subscribers are entitled to our free gift of a Stamp, beginning with No. 13.

Wm. G. (S.W.).—By the variety in question is meant that the inner oval consists of two lines instead of one.

Phil. (E.C.).—(a) If you will refer to our publishers' Catalogue of English Stamps (4/6 post free) you will see that there are nearly 300 varieties of the old penny red English, some of which are worth from 5/- to 20/-. (b) Your Spanish Stamps with a Canary Islands postmark has evidently been posted on the island, and is certainly interesting.

E.K. (London, N.).—You are one among many who wishes to know how some of the very obstinate watermarks can be rendered more visible. Put your stamps face downwards on a smooth black surface, and gently apply with a camel hair brush pure benzine (6d. a bottle from any chemist) till the whole stamp is well soaked. The watermark being the thinnest part of the paper, will appear in a black outline.

S.R. (Bristol).—Very sorry you were misled by our remark. We thought it was such a well-known thing that Senf's famous catalogue was printed in German, that we did not think it necessary to specially mention this fact. If you will return the book we will exchange it for a copy of "Our Catalogue" which is written in English and closely resembles Senf's.

V.H.—(a) We cannot give you any information which an ordinary catalogue will answer. If we did so half the space would be thus occupied. (b) Samoa Express Stamps with bar postmark are not likely to be genuine. Will you send them for inspection? (c) Penmarked copies of any Columbian Stamps are worth about 50% less than postally used specimens.

Un Commencant.—(a) If you soak your stamps in cold water for say 6 hours, put them between blotting paper and apply a gentle pressure, you will find they will be greatly improved; but care must be taken with those stamps which are printed in fugitive ink, such as the last two issues of Great Britain, all Russian and Bulgarian stamps, and some other countries, which cannot stand such treatment. (b) It is quite

impossible to give you even an idea what you ought to pay for the collection of 2000 you mention—everything depends on the contents. We may however be able to give you a valuation if you will send them for inspection.

John W.D. (New Cross).—Some Stamps printed by the American Banknote Company were issued with an embossing of different sizes, which was intended to break the fibres of the paper, and thus permitting the latter to absorb a larger amount of the post marking ink, making the cleaning of stamps next to impossible. However, it did not answer well, and was soon abandoned. If you look at any of the 1869 issue of U. S. A. you will understand what is meant with "grille" or "grid" (gridiron).

O.K.K. (London, W.).—(a) Although all catalogues persistently chronicle a 3d. Cape of Good Hope with Anchor Watermark, such stamp has not yet been issued, as there seems to have been a sufficient supply of the C.A. issue left to supply current wants.—The Sierra Leone 3d. has however appeared. (b) Rayon L. II., III, signifies the district in which the various stamps were issued. (c) The Austrian 1867 issue exist with a variety of perforations of which the one you mention is a fairly rare one.

W.W.M.—Your 40 paras are all forged. Many thanks for your kind remarks. Every line of your three-page letter has been carefully read, and we feel convinced that if our readers go out of their way in writing long letters in which they express their approval of our policy, we can afford to look down on all those shady gentry who consider the "S.C.F." a most impertinent newcomer.

E.R. (Barnsbury).—We should like to see the German advertisement offering set of 11 Ecuador provisionals. A number of these things are bogus.

P.B. (Sunderland).—Your stamps are of the ordinary rd. red issue, English. They are usually sold, not singly, but by the ton!

E.R.A.T.—You had better let us see those two Americans.

A.G.G. (London, N.).—You will notice from the remarks made by such a well-known authority as Mr. Fred A. Philbrick which appears in another column, that the collection of obliterations is of more than passing value, and hence, why we devote so much attention and space to it.—As a matter of fact, many collectors have gone in for this most fascinating pursuit.

Frank E.W. (S.W.).—We have never received your letter of Jan. 8th. Please repeat questions.

J.W.K. (Liverpool).—Your postcard is an accidental slip, which would hardly fetch anything as so few collect postcards now-a-days.

W.P.E. (Cardiff).—If you apply to Mr. Nunn, Bury St. Edmunds, he will forward you a copy of his directory on receipt of 7d.

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Never be afraid to write to the Editors of this paper about anything that puzzles you.



THE STAMP

COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1895.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

Class a—Superb condition, if unused with gum, (mint state), if used, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

Continued from page 12.

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, February 20, 21 & 22, 1895.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
b	Switzerland, Another, cut close	1	4	0
a	Vaud, 5c.	1	5	0
b	Another	0	16	0
a	Winterthur, 2½ rappen	2	10	0
b	Zurich, 4r., horizontal lines, type 4, unused ..	23	0	0
c	do. 4r., vertical lines, type 5	15	0	0
b	do. 6r., horizontal lines	2	0	0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue	1	16	0
b	Transvaal, 1d. red, thin paper, wide roulette ..	0	16	0
b	Trinidad, lithograph, grey, coarse impression ..	1	8	0
a	(1859), 1d. red, pair, imperf. vertically, unused ..	2	12	6
b	United States (1856), 90c. blue, unused	2	15	0
c	ditto, 3c. red on laid paper	0	17	0
a	(1861), 5c. mustard	1	0	0
a	ditto, 90c. blue, with grill	1	6	0
c	State, 2 dollars	1	14	0
b	Mobile, 5c. blue	1	2	0
a	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, perf. 12	1	14	0
a	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red, impression on black	3	7	6
c	2d. vermilion, roulette, 2 averaged	0	17	0
c	1/- brown, roulette	0	11	0
b	Württemberg, 1st issue, 3kr. yellow, unused ..	1	18	0
b	ditto, 6kr. green, thinned but fine	2	2	0
b	18kr. blue with thread, 2 strips of 3, a pair, a single and a 9kr. rose, all used together, on entire ..	20	0	0
<i>Mr. W. HADLOW, February 25, 1895.</i>				
b	Antigua, 6d. green, imperf.	1	14	0
c	Barbados, 5/- rose	0	17	0
b	British Columbia, 10c. rose, perf. 12½	2	12	6
b	British East Africa, ½ anna on 2 annas	1	18	0
c	Canada, 6d. green, penmark	1	2	0
b	Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, 1d. red	1	4	0
b	Ceylon, 6d. brown, wmk. star, unused	0	12	0
b	5c. on 16c., reversed surcharge	0	9	0
c	Great Britain, 5/- rose, plate 4, 8 averaged ..	0	4	0
c	£5 on bluish, "Specimen"	1	10	0
c	Greece, 20l. blue, printed on back	0	8	0
c	India, "Service" short, 2as., black and lilac ..	0	12	0
c	ditto long, 2as. ditto	1	8	0
c	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. medium state	0	16	0
a	Modena, 40c. black on blue, CNET	0	14	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
b	Montserrat, half of 1d., perf. 14, used as ½d. on entire ..	0	11	0
b	Nevis, 1/- blue-green, perf. 15	1	12	0
b	1/- green, perf. 13	1	4	0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange vermilion, unused ..	0	18	0
b	6d. ditto, used	1	5	0
c	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. plate 1	0	15	0
a	Registered, carmine and deep blue, imperf. ..	0	11	0
b	New Zealand, 2d. blue on blue, 2 on entire ..	0	18	0
c	Queensland, ½d. on 1d. orange, unused	0	12	0
c	2d., current type, perf 9½ by 12½, 2 shades ..	0	13	0
c	Scinde Dawke, ½a. white, 2 averaged	0	6	0
c	South Australia, G.T., on long 2d. roulette, no final stop	0	10	0
c	E.B. on short 2d. roulette, wmk. star	0	4	0
c	O.A. on long 2d. roulette	0	9	0
b	S.M. in black on 2d. perf. and roulette	0	6	0
b	L.T. in blue on 2d. roulette, pair	0	8	0
c	R.B. in red, on long 2d.	0	5	0
a	P.W. in black on 4d. perf. 10, wmk. star, pair ..	1	6	0
b	W. in black, on 2d. roulette, S.A.	0	8	0
c	1d. green, imperf. 2 pairs averaged	1	7	0
c	Transvaal, 1/- green, red surcharge	0	12	0
c	Turks Islands, 4d. on 6d. short surcharge, strip of 3, unused	1	4	0
c	United States, (1869) 90c. fine shade but slight tear ..	2	2	0
b	90c. lake, 2 blocks of 10.	0	18	0
c	Württemberg, 18kr. first issue	0	13	0

Mr. W. HADLOW, February 27, 1895.

a	Cyprus, 1d. plate 184	0	16	0
a	Danish West Indies, 4c. blue, 21 unused copies ..	1	14	0
a	14c. lilac and green, 24 unused copies	4	12	6
b	Denmark, 16sk. roulette, 2 averaged	0	19	0
b	ditto 4 used averaged	0	8	6
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. early state but paper creased before printing	2	2	0
a	ditto 1d. medium state, good margins	3	3	0
b	ditto 1d. late state, 2 with good margins averaged ..	2	5	0
c	ditto 1d. ditto, 3 averaged	1	0	0
b	small fillet, 2d. with good margins	1	2	0
b	(1858) 6d. vermilion	0	18	0
b	(1860) 1/- green, imperf., unused	1	8	0
b	5/- bright mauve, 3 unused averaged	0	5	0
a	Schleswig Holstein, 1st issue, 1sch. blue unused ..	1	6	0
b	Another, cut close	0	19	0
b	Holstein, 1½sch. blue, small figures, 6 unused copies ..	0	15	0
b	Spain (1860) 2cts. green, block of 8 unused	1	10	0
b	ditto 12cts. red, block of 10 unused	1	10	0
b	ditto 2rs. lilac, block of 9 unused	1	5	0
a	(1865) 10cts. brown and rose, block of 4 unused ..	3	10	0
b	(1868) H.P.N. on 50m. brown	1	2	0
b	ditto "Habilitado por La Junta Revolucionaria" on 50m. brown	2	2	0
b	ditto "Habilitado por La Nacion" on ditto	2	2	0
b	ditto in black on 19 cuartos	2	0	0
b	ditto in blue on ditto	2	2	0
b	Straits Settlements, 1½c. on ½a., 10 unused ..	1	0	0
b & c	12c. on 4a. 2 unused	1	7	0
c	ditto 7 used	1	2	0
a	5c. on 8c. block 6 and pair unused	1	10	0
a	ditto sheet of 60 unused	8	0	0
a	10c. on 30c., 25 unused in blocks, &c.	3	10	0
a	2c. brown, C.A., 24 unused	1	14	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
b	Virgin Islands, 1d. green, perf. 12, 11 unused	.. 2 0 0
c	Western Australia, 2d. brown-red, roulette	.. 0 18 0
c	6d. black, partly cut to shape	.. 0 14 0
c	1/- roulette, 2 cut copies	.. 1 5 0
b	2d. vermilion, roulette	.. 1 4 0
c	6d. green, roulette	.. 0 14 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., March 11th, 1895.

a	Barbados, 5/- lake, unused	.. 3 12 6
a	British Columbia, 50c. carmine and mauve, perf. 14, unused	.. 0 19 0
c	Ceylon, 4d. imperf., unused, small margins, no gum, slightly discoloured	.. 13 10 0
a	1/- violet, no watermark	.. 0 16 0
b	Great Britain, 2½d. lilac-rose, plate 2, L.II. and F.L.	1 18 0
b	8d. brown, unused	.. 4 5 0
c	£1 lilac, Maltese cross	.. 0 16 0
a	India, 2½a. on 4½a. green, unused sheet of 120	.. 1 12 0
b	Ionian Islands, 2d. red, used	.. 0 12 0
a	Levant, 10 paras, blue and brown, provisional	.. 5 0 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. pale red, plate 1, unused	.. 11 0 0
3a.	1c. laureated, 1d. vermilion, with wmk., unused strip of 4 (Nos. 3 to 6)	.. 5 15 0
c	New Zealand, 2d. vermilion, lozenge wmk.	.. 2 12 0
a	Peru, Medio Peso yellow, 2 copies averaged	.. 2 11 0
c	ditto rose	.. 6 10 0
c	Queensland, 1d. orange-red, large star, imperf.	.. 1 18 0
1a.	1c. ½d. on 1d. orange, pair unused	.. 1 7 0
b	Russia (1863) 30k., rose and green, perf. 15, on vertically laid paper, unused	.. 1 12 0
c	South Australia, 2d. red, Crown and S.A., perf. by roulette	.. 0 12 0
b	Sweden, 24sk. hco., red, unused	.. 0 16 0
b	United States (1869) 24c., purple and green	.. 0 16 0
b	Columbus 1 dollar	.. 0 12 0
c	Western Australia, 2d. brown-red, slightly mended, unused	.. 4 7 6
b	ditto, used	.. 0 15 0

Mr. W. HADLOW, March 11th, 1895.

a	Afghanistan (1288), plain circle, abasi black, unused	.. 1 11 0
b	ditto, sunar, used and not cut	.. 1 3 0
b	(1290) shahi purple, pair, penmark	.. 3 5 0
b	Another pair, unmarked and untorn, on piece of original	.. 5 0 0
b	(1293) tablet issue, abasi, penmark	.. 6 6 0
c	ditto, shahi black, 2 cut to shape	.. 0 18 0
b	ditto, shahi cut square, piece out	.. 1 2 0
a	British Bechuanaland, 1d. green surcharge, strip of 4, last with double surcharge, unused	.. 0 18 0
a	British East Africa, 2a. red, imperf.	.. 0 18 0
c	British Guiana (1856), 4c., 2 damaged, averaged	.. 0 13 6
c	Cashmere, 1st issue, 3 of the black, on pieces of original	.. 0 9 0
c	Colombia (1861), 2½c. black	.. 0 16 0
b	France, 1st issue, tête bêche	.. 1 4 0
a	Guadeloupe, sheet of 50 of 25c. on 35c., unused	.. 0 19 0
a	ditto, 20c. on 30c., ditto	.. 1 1 0
c	Hong Kong, 10 dollars rose	.. 0 19 0
c	Ionian Islands, 2d. carmine with red postmark	.. 0 14 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d. blue, 4 averaged	.. 0 10 0
b	Registration, imperf., 2 averaged	.. 0 8 6
c	Peru, 1 ditto green, pair arms reversed	.. 1 6 0
c	Portugal, 240r. lilac, figures in curve, 13 copies	.. 1 11 0
c	Queensland, 6d. imperf.	.. 0 14 0
b	South Australia, 1d. green, imperf., 3 averaged	.. 0 15 0
b	1d. deep green, imperf., pair	.. 2 6 0
a	1d. yellow green, imperf., pair	.. 5 5 0
c	Tasmania, 1d. blue, penmark	.. 1 3 0
b	Transvaal, 6d. dark blue, wide roulette	.. 0 16 0
b	Victoria, 2d. Queen on throne, litho., reconstructed plate of 50	.. 5 0 0
c	6d. orange, serpentine roulette, unused	.. 0 14 0
b	4d. rose, emblems, imperf., no wmk., printed on reverse, unused	.. 1 12 0
c	6d. orange, beaded oval, perfs. cut	.. 0 11 0
b	Western Australia, 6d. black	.. 1 10 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, March 13 and 14, 1895.

b	Alsace Lorraine, 10c. brown, inverted net, 24 copies	.. 0 12 0
a	Austrian Italy, 5c. yellow, impression on back, 2 copies	.. 0 12 0
a	Bremen, 5sgr., imperf., block of 12 unused	.. 3 5 0
b & c	5 grote, 10 unused copies	.. 1 10 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
b	British Guiana (1860), 24c., thick paper	.. 0 16 0
b	2c. on 24c. green (1863), official, block of 20 unused	.. 6 5 0
b	Canada, 6d. purple black, 2 averaged	.. 0 17 6
c	Cape of Good Hope, 4d. wood block	.. 2 6 0
b	1d. red on bluish, 15 copies	.. 2 0 0
c	1/- green, 10 copies	.. 2 2 0
c	Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf., good margins but corners clipped	.. 2 12 6
b	5c. on 24c. green, 8 copies	.. 2 0 0
b	5c. on 48c. rose, 17 copies	.. 1 10 0
b	10c. on 24c. green, 10 copies	.. 2 4 0
a	20c. on 24c. green, 17 copies, unused	.. 1 6 0
a	10c. on 64c., perf. 12½ x 14, 12 unused	.. 1 14 0
b	Colombia (1862), 1 peso, lilac	.. 1 4 0
b	Dominica, ½d. in red on half 1d., inverted surcharge	.. 1 12 0
b	½d. in black on half 1d., 6 unused pairs	.. 1 12 0
b	½d. vertical on half 1d., 20 copies	.. 2 6 0
a	Great Britain, Prince Albert essay, 1d. black perf.	.. 0 12 0
a	Greece, 2 leptas cinnamon, block of 10 and 4 unused	.. 1 2 0
a	Grenada, ½d. purple "Ostage" in pair and single, unused	.. 1 2 0
b	2½d. lake, 36 copies	.. 2 12 6
b & c	1/- purple, 6 unused copies	.. 1 2 0
b	ditto 13 used	.. 1 8 0
b	Hamburg, 7sch. orange, perf., 2 unused	.. 1 1 0
c	Hanover, 10gr. green, 7 mended specimens	.. 2 2 0
b	India, 2a. green, unused	.. 2 8 0
a	Another ditto	.. 2 17 6
a	Service ½a. green and lilac, 3 unused	.. 1 10 0
b	Lubeck, ½sch. lilac, wmk. rosettes, unused	.. 1 8 0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. medium state, pair (Nos. 1 and 2)	.. 5 2 6
c	ditto ditto vertical pair	.. 1 10 0
a	ditto ditto strip of 3 (7, 8 and 9)	.. 5 10 0
b	ditto ditto late state, pair (10 and 11)	.. 2 2 0
b & c	ditto 2d. blue, 5 "apparently unused" copies averaged	.. 3 11 0
c	ditto ditto PENOË, mended	.. 2 2 0
b	ditto ditto early state	.. 3 17 6
c	ditto ditto 6 copies averaged	.. 2 9 0
b	Small Fillet, 5 poor specimens	.. 2 4 0
b	Mecklenburg-Strelitz, ¼sgr., 7 unused	.. 0 18 0
c	Mexico, Chiapas, 2r. black on rose, on original	.. 2 6 0
b	Modena, 25c. black on green, error of colour	.. 0 8 0
c	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. on bluish, plate 2, pair, one mended	.. 1 16 0
b	ditto ditto another pair	.. 3 10 0
b	ditto 2l. plate 2, 7 averaged	.. 0 16 6
a & b	ditto 2d., plate 3, 17 averaged	.. 0 15 0
b & c	ditto 2d., plate 4, 3 averaged	.. 0 11 6
c	ditto 2d., plate 5, 5 averaged	.. 0 7 6
c	ditto 3d., green, 3 averaged	.. 0 7 0
b	Laureated, 1d., no wmk., 18 (several pairs)	.. 2 12 6
b	O.S. in black on 3d. green, wmk. 6	.. 0 5 0
b	Registered, imperf., 4 on pieces of original	.. 1 7 0
c	ditto ditto, 19 copies	.. 4 7 0
c	ditto perf., 24 copies	.. 3 0 0
b	New Zealand, 1d. on bluish, 5 averaged	.. 0 17 6
b	Nova Scotia, 3d. blue, surcharged 5 cents	.. 0 7 6
b & c	Philippines, 1st issue, 10c. carmine, made-up plate of 40, including 8 unused	.. 45 0 0
b & c	ditto 2r. green, ditto, including 21 unused	.. 42 0 0
a	ditto 1r. blue, CORROS	.. 4 4 0
a	Lithograph, 5c. red, fine vert. pair	.. 3 0 0
b	ditto ditto horizontal pair	.. 2 0 6
b	ditto ditto unused	.. 2 15 0
a	Another	.. 3 5 0
b	ditto ditto 4 averaged	.. 1 1 0
b	Sandwich Islands (1862), 2c. red, 3 shades	.. 1 12 0
c	South Australia, 9d., perf. and roulette	.. 1 1 0
b	Suez Canal, set of 4, used	.. 9 10 0
c	Switzerland, 1aud. 4c. red and black, torn but fine	.. 7 10 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. red, wmk. 2, penmark	.. 2 4 0
c	Another, mended	.. 1 18 0
a	Tolima, 1st issue, 5c. black on buff	.. 1 10 0
c	Trinidad, lithograph 1d., fine impression, 2 copies	.. 1 0 0
c	ditto ditto coarse, 2 copies	.. 1 1 0
c	ditto 1d. grey, coarse, 2 copies	.. 1 8 0
c	ditto ditto on piece of original	.. 0 13 0
b	1/- imperf., CC. wmk., unused	.. 1 14 0
c	1/- indigo, pin perf., 5 copies	.. 1 2 0

To be continued.

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THE Catalogues, which are carefully prepared, are circulated freely in Great Britain, and in all the chief towns on the Continent, and those of the more important sales are published a month in advance, in order to circulate in America. Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON**, will be happy to execute any commissions, free of charge, for those who cannot attend their sales. They feel assured that the reputation their firm has enjoyed for upwards of a century (*added to the fact that they sell exclusively by Auction, and are not Dealers*), will be sufficient guarantee that any commissions entrusted to their care will be faithfully executed.

Their next **SALE** will take place on the **27th MARCH**, at the above address, and includes the
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Among the other important lots will be

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Doings of Societies.

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- SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

No reports to hand on going to press.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MR. M. P. CASTLE sent his fine collection of Swiss Cantonals for exhibition at the meeting held on February 21st. The President gave all necessary information and remarks. The whole collection was certainly a great surprise for very many of the members, who had scarcely ever seen some of the varieties which were here shewn in such profusion.

A very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Castle for sending his stamps for the inspection of the members brought a very interesting meeting to a close.

At the meeting of March 7th, Mr. Walter Morley, Mrs. L. Rondel, Mr. Harry Hulcker, Monsieur P. de la Touraniere and Mr. E. F. Broderip were unanimously elected members. Messrs. Wilson, Pym and others then exhibited fine collections of the old stamps of the Leeward Islands. The last two exchange packets were £197 5s. 1d. and £248 19s. 5d. respectively. The December packet was returned to the Hon. Secretary on March 14th and all accounts due to members were settled on that and the following day.

STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.

We are glad to know that the formation of this Society, which we foreshadowed in our issue of February 9th, is an accomplished fact.

The Stamp Exchange Protection Society has been established on thorough business-like principles, and with a strong committee of management that augurs well for the impartial working of the estimable object of the Society.

The rage for Stamp Exchange Clubs has become so great, especially among a certain class of collectors, that something in the nature of a Protection Society was bound to come before long, and it is well that it has been founded by those best calculated to know where it is needed, viz., the secretaries of the old existing Clubs.

The committee have set themselves rather a large task, but with cordial support from the generality of honest collectors and exchangists, there is no reason to doubt the Society will work great good, and if it is the means of detecting and exposing only half a dozen of the rascals that have hitherto infested many Exchange Clubs, it will have deserved the support it is receiving.

It only came into existence with the New Year, but at the meeting held early last month a large number of members were elected, and we understand many more names have been received for membership.

As the subscription is only 2s. 6d. for private collectors, and 5s. for secretaries of Clubs, we think anyone joining will, without doubt, receive his money's worth of protection and information.

The Secretary is Mr. F. A. Wickhart, 70, Sotheby Road, Highbury, N.

SCARBOROUGH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

This is another new Society. At a meeting held on March 8th, under the presidency of J. H. Rowntree, the rules were finally passed.

The election of vice-president, exchange rules, and report of committee, &c., were over till next meeting. It was decided that an annual subscription of 4s. with an entrance of 2s. be charged, non-residents to have the privilege of becoming corresponding members at 1s. 2d. subscription, and members under eighteen to become associates at 1s. 2d. usual subscription. It was decided to hold the meetings fortnightly during the summer months as well as the winter as an experiment. There was a good attendance.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting held on February 16th, Mr. Eugene Eglev, the hon. treasurer, read a paper on "The Cantonal Stamps of Switzerland and Forgeries of them," illustrating the same by his collection of genuine stamps and the Society's series of forgeries.

The paper excited much interest among the members present, and at the close a vote of thanks was proposed by the Rev. T. S. Fleming, seconded by Mr. J. W. Daffield, supported by the president, and adopted unanimously.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the ordinary meeting held on February 15th, Mr. Frank Barratt presiding, Mr. G. B. Duerst concluded his interesting paper on the "Stamps of Roumania." He pointed out that on every sheet of the 10 bani of the 1876 issue (Bucharest print), there exists a cliché of the 5 bani stamp, forming the 5 bani "error," blue instead of rose. Specimens of this stamp (which was reprinted later) are very scarce. In the 1879 issue—same design and values as before, but printed in different colours, and with many varieties of perforation, there is again the 5 bani stamp "error."

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Doings of Societies.

- NORTHAMPTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- ROCHDALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

No reports to hand on going to press.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MR. M. P. CASTLE sent his fine collection of Swiss Cantonals for exhibition at the meeting held on February 21st. The President gave all necessary information and remarks. The whole collection was certainly a great surprise for very many of the members, who had scarcely ever seen some of the varieties which were here shewn in such profusion.

A very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Castle for sending his stamps for the inspection of the members brought a very interesting meeting to a close.

At the meeting of March 7th, Mr. Walter Morley, Mrs. L. Rondel, Mr. Harry Hulckes, Monsieur P. de la Tournière and Mr. E. F. Broderip were unanimously elected members. Messrs. Wilson, Pym and others then exhibited fine collections of the old stamps of the Leeward Islands. The last two exchange packets were £197 5s. 1d. and £248 19s. 5d. respectively. The December packet was returned to the Hon. Secretary on March 14th and all accounts due to members were settled on that and the following day.

STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.

WE are glad to know that the formation of this Society, which we foreshadowed in our issue of February 9th, is an accomplished fact.

The Stamp Exchange Protection Society has been established on thorough business-like principles, and with a strong committee of management that augurs well for the impartial working of the estimable object of the Society.

The rage for Stamp Exchange Clubs has become so great, especially among a certain class of collectors, that something in the nature of a Protection Society was bound to come before long, and it is well that it has been founded by those best calculated to know where it is needed, viz., the secretaries of the old existing Clubs.

The committee have set themselves rather a large task, but with cordial support from the generality of honest collectors and exchangers, there is no reason to doubt the Society will work great good, and if it is the means of detecting and exposing only half a dozen of the rascals that have hitherto infested many Exchange Clubs, it will have deserved the support it is receiving.

It only came into existence with the New Year, but at the meeting held early last month a large number of members were elected, and we understand many more names have been received for membership.

As the subscription is only 2s. 6d. for private collectors, and 5s. for secretaries of Clubs, we think anyone joining will, without doubt, receive his money's worth of protection and information.

The Secretary is Mr. F. A. Wickhart, 70, Sotheby Road, Highbury, N.

SCARBOROUGH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THIS is another new Society. At a meeting held on March 8th, under the presidency of J. H. Rowntree, the rules were finally passed.

The election of vice-president, exchange club rules, and report of committee &c., were left over till next meeting. It was decided that an annual subscription of 4s. with an entrance of 2s. be charged, non-residents to have the privilege of becoming corresponding members at 1s. 2d. subscription, and members under eighteen to become associates at 1s. 2d. usual subscription. It was decided to hold the meetings fortnightly during the summer months as well as the winter as an experiment. There was a good attendance.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the meeting held on February 16th, Mr. Eugene Egley, the hon. treasurer, read a paper on "The Cantonal Stamps of Switzerland and Forgeries of Them," illustrating the same by his collection of genuine stamps and the Society's series of forgeries.

The paper excited much interest among the members present, and at the close a vote of thanks was proposed by the Rev. T. S. Fleming, seconded by Mr. J. W. Duffield, supported by the president, and adopted unanimously.

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[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 6d for three lines of six words. For every extra line of eight words, 2d.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 5, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

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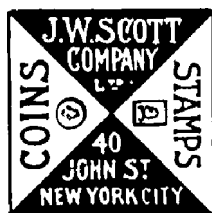
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THE

STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 14.—Vol. I. SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1895. ONE PENNY.

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May 7 & 8.—Including a fine collection of New South Wales (broken up), the Sydney views, laureated, etc., amongst which are many fine specimens, and pairs will all be accurately described as regards position on plate, paper, colour and condition, also entire sheets of early Europeans, the remainder of the collection of Vernon Roberts, Esq., containing many rarities and others.

May 23 & 24.—A fine selection, including Natal, 1st issue, 6d. green, cut in half and used as 3d., on piece of original; Mauritius, the large fillet, 2d. blue; Transvaal, 6d. blue with red surcharge, printed twice; Canada, strip of ½d. rose, imperf.; halves of stamps of Prince Edward's Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, used on the entire envelope; France, 1st issue, a strip of six, 1 franc, one stamp tête bêche, issued on piece of original; Ceylon, 1st issue, 6d. rouletted; New South Wales, 6d. violet, wmk., 12 unused, with gum, and many others, also several fine collections.

It is particularly requested that Owners desirous of obtaining Special Days of Sale, should communicate as early as possible, in order that due publicity may be given. Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, they have decided to issue them, in all cases where practicable, at least one month before the date of Sale. In order to enable them to carry out this arrangement, Owners intending to include Stamps, should forward them at the earliest possible moment.

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With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."
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No. 14.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	113
A Reverie	113
Philately at Home	114
Philatelic Events	115
Between Ourselves	116
Forgers and their Work	117
City of London Philatelic Club	117
English Stamps Used Abroad	118
Under Bennett's Clock	119
Our Forum	119
Answers to Correspondents	120

Philatelic Personalities.

MR. CHARLES J. PHILLIPS has been chatting with the man that does the *Evening News* interviews. Among the customers of the Stanley Gibbons firm are the Duke of York, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg (whom the *Evening News* man describes as the Duke of Edinburgh, by the way) the Earl of Kingston, Baron de Worms, the Rothschilds, Mr. Cornelius K. Vanderbilt, Earl de Grey, and Baron Hirsch. The Prince of Wales, as we all know, is not a philatelist; but one day Mr. Phillips was summoned to Marlborough House to inspect a collection which H.R.H. thought about buying for the Duke of York. He didn't buy it, for Mr. Phillips at once saw that it was a "faked-up" thing.

SOME good stories are told in the course of that *Evening News* interview. "A short time ago," Mr. Phillips told his interviewer, "a Portuguese gentleman came in, and after some trouble we found he wanted stamps. We offered him a collection to select from, and he began picking out the rarities, upon which, as he was stranger to us, we asked him if he would pay cash, as ours was a ready-money business. For answer he undid a wallet from around his waist, and flinging it on the table said, 'That contains £1,000 in English gold. I came to London to spend that much in stamps.'"

BUT this is still better: "Before the Duke of York's wedding Mr. Phillips had a new lamp fixed outside the office, and on one side caused to be painted a 10-franc Persian stamp, with

the Shah's head in the middle, and on the side a 90-cent United States stamp, adorned by Abraham Lincoln's visage. This was promptly noticed by a reporter, who remarked in his column on the following day that Mr. Stanley Gibbons was to be complimented on his loyalty, but hardly on his portrait of the Duke of York, "which was not a bit like His Royal Highness." He actually thought that the clean-shaven sallow visage of the famous American President was intended for a likeness of the ardent Royal stamp-collector!"

OUR MR. HARRY HILCKES has also been interviewed, not by the *Evening News*, but by *Answers*, the subject being "The Boom in English Stamps." The article published in *Answers* of March 23rd makes interesting reading, even for a philatelist.

MR. C. K. JONES had dropped out of philately so completely that his death, a few weeks ago, at the age of 53 passed almost unnoticed. Yet, in his day, Mr. Jones was a mighty man in philatelic matters. Thirty years ago, C. K. Jones & Co., of Ardwick—afterwards Steinau, Jones & Co., of Manchester—was a firm whose business rivalled even that of Young & Stockall, of Liverpool.

IT is curious (as the *London Philatelist* remarks), to observe one of Mr. Jones's advertisements in the old *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, 3pf. Saxons quoted at 2s. 6d., sixpenny New Brunswicks and Nova Scotias, at 9d., and unused Oldenburgs, Tuscany's, and Hanovers, at about twice face value! The death of this once great dealer snaps yet another link with the days when extraordinary bargains were to be picked up by the philatelist far seeing enough to predict the ultimate return upon such investments.

A Reverie.

ENSCONCED one evening in my most comfortable arm-chair, before a blazing fire, with my feet on the mantel-piece, and my favourite briar in my mouth, I ought to have felt one of the most contented mortals on earth.

Nevertheless, I was most unhappy. By the last post I had received a shade that for years my soul had yearned for, but my conscience would not permit me to pay the price demanded. The more I reflected the more bitter grew my feelings.

Has your friend Jones seen this paper? If not,

But gradually, and whether it was through the influence of the hot fire, or the after effects of my dinner, or both combined, I do not know, but gradually I fell into a more contented frame of mind. I remembered when a little lad fresh from school my mother gave me my first album, as a reward for gaining a prize, and as an encouragement for still further efforts. I remembered the placid content I enjoyed in placing each stamp in its allotted space; no mercenary feelings prevailed then. The album cost me nothing, and the contents no more. I have it by me still. Ah! well, sometimes I have scorned it; sometimes I have thought, "had it not been for you, old album —"

At that moment my coffee came in. I shifted my position and relit my pipe. I was really growing quite sentimental. I drank my coffee and settled down again. I let my thoughts run on to the time when I began to collect in earnest and specialize in my favourite country, Great Britain. I remembered one of the early auctions I attended, held by Mr. Cheveley, in February, 1891, at which the Westoby Collection of English was dispersed. How dear they went, too, we thought. The V.R. for £6 15s. od., the 2s. brown, unused, for £1 16s. od., the 10s. and £1, both watermarks, for a trifle over double face, and were they not all record prices? A month ago—a short four years have passed—the V.R. goes at auction for £14 14s. od., the 2s. brown for £3 12s. 6d., the £1 Maltese Cross for £20 10s. od., and was not this latter, and the identical stamp too, bought for £2 12s. 6d. at Mr. Hadlow's sale in May, 1892? Many other cases also I thought of as I dozed.

In four years hence I wondered, should we be regretting these as bargains lost, should we be grumbling then, as now, and as four years ago, at record prices? I yawned and stretched myself, and with a sudden impulse, rose, and—wrote the cheque!

T. E. RETLAW.

Philately At Home.

THE INFANT PHILATELIST.—AN INTERESTING CASE.

BEFORE Mr. Justice Bruce, at the Birmingham Assizes, on March 25th, an action was brought by Messrs. Bright, a firm of Stationers and Stamp Dealers, against Alfred N. Rose, a stamp collector residing at Over Whitacre, to recover a book of British and Colonial stamps, or their value, £123 15s. 11d. Mr. Alfred Young and Mr. Disturnal appeared for the plaintiffs; and Mr. Harris, *q.c.*, and Mr. Pritchett for the defendant.—The defendant, by his defence, said that he was an infant, and, further, denied the detention and the contract.

Mr. Alfred Young said that in 1892 plaintiffs and defendant got into communication, and several small transactions in stamps followed. Books of stamps were sent to defendant, and he made purchases. On October 21st, 1893, plaintiffs wrote to defendant thanking him for some communication respecting a competitor in trade, and at the same time forwarded him the book of stamps which formed the subject of the present action, requesting defendant, in case he did not require them, to return them by post. No reply was received until October 20th, when, writing from 199, Monument Road, Birmingham, Mr. Rose acknowledged the stamps, and asked to be allowed to detain them for a week or ten days, as he thought he could sell several pounds worth. The stamps, however, were not returned, and between October 28th and February 16th, 1894, plaintiffs sent several postcards and letters enquiring about the book. It transpired that defendant had left his lodgings in Monument Road, Birmingham, and had gone to live with his parents at Over Whitacre. Further letters were written, and on June 14th plaintiffs threatened to take legal proceedings. Two days after that defendant wrote saying that there must be some mistake, because he had returned the stamps in the early part of November, and their letter of June 14th was the first he had heard to the contrary. Plaintiffs replied that they had not received the stamps, and pointed out to defendant that if he sent the book by registered

post, as he had previously returned books, he would have the receipt, and could give the exact date. Defendant replied that he returned the stamps on November 4th, together with a remittance of 30/- in payment for specimens he had sold. Exhaustive enquiries were made by the postal authorities, but no trace of a registered parcel from Birmingham to plaintiffs could be found, and defendant subsequently wrote that he had made a thorough search for the registration receipt, but could not find it. He, however, remembered posting the book, but afterwards wrote "I cannot absolutely swear to having posted it. In answer to interrogatories, defendant swore that he posted the book on November 4th. When legal proceedings were commenced defendant's solicitors wrote that their client was an infant, having been born in January, 1876. Mr. Young now pointed out that the latter part of the action having reference to the contract could not be enforced against defendant, but it fortunately happened that Mr. Rose could not urge the plea of infancy in respect of the detinue.

One of the plaintiffs gave formal evidence in support of counsel's opening statement, and said that the stamps in question were colonial ones—chiefly West Indian. Since 1893 the stamps had risen in value. In cross-examination, witness said that he could swear to the book in question not having been returned, because there was no entry in any of his books, and all his transactions—excepting, perhaps, for trifling amounts—were entered.

Mr. Harris, *q.c.*, for the defendant, submitted there was no case, but his Lordship ruled otherwise.

The defendant, Alfred N. Rose, was called and sworn. He stated he was twenty years of age. He detailed his transactions with plaintiffs, and said that the particular book of stamps referred to he returned on November 4th. He knew this because on referring to his papers he found memoranda written by himself on plaintiff's letter of October 21st, stating that the book was returned on November 4th. When he got the stamps he took them to a Mr. Myers, of Union Passage, Birmingham, and sold about 28s. worth to that gentleman, and retained about a couple of shillings worth for himself. He afterwards returned the album through the post, and also sent two postal orders, one for 20s. and one for 10s. To the best of his recollection he posted it at the General Post Office, Birmingham, and in writing to the postmaster on June 26th, he said he believed he registered the book, because he generally registered such things.

His Lordship: What led you to that belief?

Witness: Because I should be unlikely to return the book without its being registered.

Cross-examined by Mr. Disturnal, he never informed plaintiffs that he was an infant, and did not think that of any importance. He registered every packet in the earlier transactions, but he never received an acknowledgment from plaintiffs.

Mr. Disturnal: Will you swear you did not receive an acknowledgment dated March 11th, 1892, of a collection sent back by you just previous to that date? I have no recollection; I won't swear it.

Will you swear you did not receive one on April 15th? It's going back too far.

His Lordship: But you have just sworn you never did.

In further cross-examination, defendant said that he crossed the two postal orders and also took their numbers. He had not been able to find the paper on which he wrote the numbers, and supposed it had been destroyed. Witness swore that the letter was posted, and after saying that it might possibly have been posted by someone else, corrected himself when reminded of his replies to the postmaster, and declared that he posted it himself.

His Lordship said the questions he proposed to put to the jury were: Was the album returned? If it was returned, did defendant, when he was asked to return it, refuse—that was, did he allege what he knew to be a false excuse as the reason for not returning it?

The jury, after retiring, returned into court, and requested to know whether a verdict for the plaintiffs would carry the full value of the stamps, or whether they had to assess the value.

His Lordship: A verdict for the plaintiffs would carry the full value, unless the parties consent to fix a smaller sum. The jury then expressed a desire to hear further evidence as to the value, and his Lordship remarked that it was very irregular and inconvenient at that point to take further evidence.

Ultimately John Myers was called, and stated that for about nine months he was a dealer in stamps. He saw the collection in question, and put its outside value at £40.

After another brief adjournment, the jury gave a verdict for plaintiffs for £55, and 1s. damages for detention, the amount to be reduced to 1s. in case the stamps were returned.

MR. WICKHAM JONES ON SHANGHAI STAMPS.

An admirable paper, traversing an alarming number of the statements made and deductions drawn in Mr. W. B. Thornhill's work on the stamps of Shanghai, has recently been read before the London Philatelic Society, by Mr. T. Wickham Jones. The paper serves the double purpose of clearing up many obscure points concerning the stamps in question, and at the same time showing the folly of issuing what it is only charitable to call a hastily written philatelic handbook. First as to date of issue, Mr. Wickham Jones, while agreeing with the contention that the date of the first emission is uncertain, is able to give it tentatively as 1894. Then as regards the style of die used and the manner of printing, the fact is deplored that Mr. Thornhill did not think it necessary to consult a few practical men. Had he done this (Mr. Wickham Jones tells us) he would have found a consensus of opinion against his conclusion that the stamps were hand stamped. Had he said hand printed he would have been nearer the mark. Mr. Wickham Jones further combats many of Mr. Thornhill's deductions as to the order of issue, and protests against the wholesale classification of certain varieties as reprints, just because they are on the same paper as stamps declared to be reprints by Pemberton. One very interesting fact pointed to by Mr. Wickham Jones is the reason for the scarcity of these interesting but ugly Shanghai stamps in the used condition. It seems that all the large firms in Shanghai paid an annual subscription to the local Post-office of 55 tael per annum, and had their correspondence sent *free*—that is, without stamps.

THE "MILLION STAMPS" DODGE AGAIN.

WILL it be credited that in these end-of-the-century days there are people ready to believe in the absurd idea that a collection of a million postage stamps will ensure the admission of an invalid to a hospital. We clip the following letter in all its naked absurdity from the *Glasgow Evening News*:—

HOSPITALS AND POSTAGE STAMPS.

SIR,—I have been requested by a friend to help in rather a curious object. His cousin (a lady) is bent upon entering one of our numerous hospitals. The stipulation regarding her being allowed to enter is "That she will have to supply a million used postage stamps." Before helping in this object I would like to know what it all means. While I would gladly help her, I think no such rule should be allowed in this country. I should like to have either your own opinion or that of some of your numerous readers.—I am, &c.,
G.P.
23rd March, 1895.

MR. HAROLD FREDERIC'S "STAMP ALBUM."

ALTHOUGH the *Million* is condemned to death, or rather to re-organization as the *Firfly*, Mr. Harold Frederic's sprightly pen is not to be lost to philately. Mr. C. Arthur Pearson announces in the current number of *Pearson's Weekly* that Mr. Frederic's stamp articles will appear on and after April 20th in the columns of that paper.

THINGS THAT WERE BETTER LEFT UNPUBLISHED.

IT is to be hoped that Messrs. Philip H. Lee and Samuel A. Wood, for their own credit, will never again perpetrate such a ridiculous farce as the shilling handbook, "The Postage Stamps of the United States," which lies before us on the editorial table. Such publications as this do philately more harm than good. The pamphlet, for that is all it can be called, consists of twenty-one very small pages of reading matter, and about a dozen pages of advertisements. The latter may be worth the shilling; the book itself certainly is not. Messrs. Lee & Wood begin very stupidly by ignoring the Postmaster's stamps *in toto*! They were not issued "in

an official manner" we are told rather contemptuously in a brief preliminary note; and so they are not thought sufficiently respectable to figure in this handbook. What is good enough for Mr. J. K. Tiffany is not good enough for Messrs. Lee & Wood. In the preface we are told (possibly as an excuse for the omission of the postmaster's issues) that "this little work" is intended "more as a handy and useful guide for the young collector." Poor "young collector!" He has a lot to put up with.

We do not know, nor shall we attempt to guess, how much time Messrs. Philip H. Lee and Samuel A. Wood put into this curious publication; but we will make them a sporting offer. We will produce a London journalist with absolutely no knowledge whatever of philately who, given the same authorities to refer to as were open to Messrs. Lee & Wood, will produce in twenty-four hours a far better and more complete compilation than the one under notice. This journalist would at least have more gumption than to describe the Columbian issue as "large rectangular," and the Special Delivery Stamps as "rectangular." He would remember that we have in the English language a very useful word commencing with "o" and ending with "g."

For the benefit of those who make a hobby of collecting the curiosities of philatelic literature, we may add that the "handbook" under notice is to be obtained from Mr. Samuel A. Wood, Hanley, Staffs.

THE LATE CZAR'S "COLLECTION" AGAIN!

AN interesting paragraph dies hard. *Advertiser* rakes up the old story about the late Czar's stamps, his fine specimens of the early issues of Mauritius, his dealings with a Hamburg dealer, and lastly that pretty story of the Wisconsin boy who got a complete set of Russian stamps in exchange for a series of unused Columbians.

THE REIGN OF A CATALOGUE.

A GENTLEMAN, signing himself "X.Y.Z." (familiar initials those!), has recently written to the *Bazaar, Exchange and Mart* expressing surprise that the London stamp dealers at the present moment are using Scott's Catalogue as a guide to prices. Nothing to be surprised about in that! The present disposition to ignore Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, which seems to greatly perturb "X.Y.Z.," is simply due to the fact that the current "Stanley Gibbons" is two years old. Some astounding rises have taken place in two years, and "X.Y.Z." must not imagine that dealers are either so sleepy or so benevolent as to allow him to fill his blank spaces at prices which are superseded. When the new Stanley Gibbons comes out, "Scott" will take a back seat for a time, and the English catalogue will enjoy its period of power. It's all as simple as "A.B.C.," dear "X.Y.Z."

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING APRIL 20th.

All News for this column must reach the office first post on Wednesday previous to date of publication.

Auction Sales.

April 8—London Philatelic Co., at the Cafe Monico, Piccadilly Circus, W., at 6 p.m.

April 9.—W. Ridout, at the Cafe Monico, Piccadilly Circus, at 6 p.m.

April 18 & 19—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 6 p.m. each day.

Tapling Collection.

The following countries are now on view in the King's Library, British Museum: West Indies (including British Guiana, &c.), and South America.

City of London Club.

Weekly Meetings at 121, Cheapside, Cossavella's Restaurant, every Thursday, at 7.30 p.m.

Owing to Messrs. Ventom's Sale no Meeting will be held on Thursday (18th inst.)

London Philatelic Society.

Every alternate Friday at Ebbingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

London Philatelic Exchange.

April 9—121, Cheapside, E.C., Cossavella's Restaurant.

Philatelic Protection Association.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, APRIL 6, 1895.

... Between Ourselves ...

WITH this well-chosen headline—"The Rock Ahead in Philately"—Mr. Castle discoursed to the members of the London Philatelic Society, at their fifteenth meeting, on the subject of the "Rock Ahead in Philately," harmful, unnecessary gumpap. In the course of a sustained metaphorical effort Mr. Castle first referred to "the Seylla of forgeries and facsimiles," from which no further danger was to be feared, and then to "the other rock ahead—the Charybdis which really loomed ominously in the offing and threatened to have a disastrous effect upon the good ship philately, even if it should not go so far as to make it a total wreck." And then Mr. Castle, who is nothing if not practical, called forth figures—not from "the vasty deep," for he had dropped the metaphor by this time; but from Mons. Maury's *Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*—to prove his contention that certain issues of stamps were issued principally, if not solely, for sale to collectors. He found that, during 1894, there were 466 "illegitimate" issues of stamps as against 300 "legitimate" emissions. Going into the question of population, to further accentuate the disparity, Mr. Castle showed that the gumpap-issuing countries contained a population of only 81 millions as against the 1397 millions inhabiting the rest of the world. "It will of course be observed (he remarked), that in the population of the world there are vast masses of people unaware of the advantages of the Postal system; but this argument applies fully as strong to the illegitimate countries, as it includes in Annam, Tonquin, Algeria, Soudan, Madagascar, Angola, and the Chinese ports, nearly forty millions, or one half of the total population."

But when it came to suggesting a remedy for the grievance be ventilated, Mr. Castle had to confess that there were serious difficulties in the way. "I am aware (said he) that as long as there are general collectors, printed albums, and stamp dealers, it is inevitable that there will be a demand for these stamps." On the other hand Mr. Castle saw several good ways of *ameliorating* the present condition of things. "If, said he, "the great dealers only purchase what they must have, and the great body of the more advanced collectors either refuse to accept them or to pay more than a nominal sum, it would have a tendency to reduce the quantities brought forth, as no one would stock goods that were not likely to be of eventual value." This is all very so far as it effects collectors; but there are "great dealers," as Mr. Castle must be well aware, who will sell anything that looks like a stamp rather than turn away a pennyworth of trade. The alternative scheme proposed by the London

Society's Vice-President is far more feasible. "It is possible (said Mr. Castle), that if the leading Philatelic body in the several countries made due representations to their Governments, calling attention to the palpable scandal caused by these issues, some good might result. Constant dropping of water will wear away a stone, and the long series of Philatelic grumbles in this country anent the speculative issues and surcharges, has at least been of great value in urging forward the authorities of this Empire to such universally welcomed steps as the extinction of stamp speculation in Ceylon, St. Helena, and other colonies."

Well, *amelioration* is better than nothing, just as half a loaf is better than no bread; and we think that Mr. Castle has indicated the best way in which to annihilate the gumpap evil. His plan is almost identical with that suggested by Mr. Edward J. Nankivell in his able address delivered at the City of London Philatelic Club's meeting on March 21st. We recommend every reader interested in this question—and we think we have interested them all—to carefully peruse the report of Mr. Nankivell's discourse given on page 117, and then to turn to our "Doings of Societies" column on page 7 of wrapper and read the resolution put to the London Society by Messrs. Castle and Nankivell. Something is being done, and that by two of the most influential philatelists in this country. This is matter for congratulation, not only to ourselves, but also to the many hundreds of readers who have gone out of their way to cordially endorse our views.

Was ever such brazen impertinence as this? A small provincial monthly paper, devoted to philately in general and philatelic advertisements in particular, comes forward with the astounding assertion that IT (the paper in question) started this anti-gumpap crusade last August!!! We (says the editor of this smugly impudent journalette) "started the boulder down hill; may it now sweep away all these speculative and faked issues—a choking undergrowth in the forest of philately." The daring of the metaphor pales into insignificance beside the brazen audacity of the claim that precedes it. To the "S.C.F.," and the "S.C.F.," alone, is due the credit of bringing this gumpap question urgently before the public. That will be admitted by everyone—has been admitted publicly, in fact, by Mr. Nankivell and other speakers at the recent dinner of the London Society. Yet this insignificant provincial paper, on the strength of one or two feeble articles concerning unnecessary issues, dares to take unto itself the credit of initiating the crusade. Our readers, we know, will excuse our warmth; they will do even more than that, they will sympathise with us in our just indignation. The small paper we refer to, but which we shall not name, probably thought to secure a free "ad." in the FORTNIGHTLY by its preposterous presumption. But though we are too old to be caught with chaff like that, we cannot allow anyone to jump our claim without a word of protest.

COLLECTORS, no less than dealers, will find subject for satisfaction in the result of a case tried at Birmingham "Half a Thief."—a case reported under "Philately at Home" in this issue of the FORTNIGHTLY. The case is important as settling a legal subtlety as to the liability of a person to whom goods are sent on approval. The *Birmingham Mail* sums up the moral with admirable clearness:—

Mr. Harris, q.c., who represented young Rose in the curious action for the recovery of stamps at the Assizes, said a verdict for the plaintiffs would brand his client as a thief. As the amount granted by the jury was about half that which was claimed the presumption is that they branded him as half a thief. It cannot have been a very pleasant case for the relatives of the defendant. If the jury are right in their belief that he still has the stamps, he has shown a cunning beyond his years in trying to convince the plaintiffs that he has not. A point of law of some subtlety was raised. Mr. Harris said: If a man sends goods to me on approval, I am not bound to return them at all. The Judge: Quite so, but suppose he sends to you for them? Mr. Harris: Well, I am not bound to give them up. I did not ask for them to be sent to me. What remedy could he

have? The Judge: He might sue you for detention. Mr. Harris: But suppose I am a minor, as my client was? The Judge: I think it would make no difference.

So stamp thieves, and others who are only fractional thieves, and legal "infants" generally, had best beware of embarking upon similar experiments.

A CORRESPONDENT, whose letter appears in this issue, suggests, and we have for some time contemplated, the formation of a vast Anti-Gumpap League, with ramifications extending to the uttermost ends of the philatelic world, and with a membership open to all who are interested in philately. Is such a scheme feasible? We begin to have our doubts. Our readers will not need to be told of the fate of the Anti-Surcharge Association, and in more recent times the ridicule poured upon the Anti-Secbeck League. Such failures as these are productive, not of good, but of incalculable evil. Hence these *fears!* Still, if we should find that the great body of our readers, endorsing the wish of our correspondent, "W.B.E.," really desired us to devote part of our space to the propagation of any such league, we would unhesitatingly do so. Let us hear from you, good Anti-Gumpappers!

Special for the "S.C.F."

Forgers and their Work.

By HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 102.)

SYDNEY VIEWS, 1d. CARMINE, PLATES 1 and 2.

AS long as stamps are only reproduced from *one* die, which is simply multiplied by a mechanical process to obtain the requisite number which eventually forms the complete plate, the detection of forgeries is comparatively easy, as the design of only one stamp has to be impressed upon the mind of the expert, who, through constantly being in touch with same, is, as a rule, able to see at a glance whether or not a stamp is spurious. Vastly more difficult, however, becomes his task when he has to deal with stamps which are separately engraved on the plate, such as the 4d. Tasmania, some of the early Victorians, and, last but not least, the Sydney Views. Then his task becomes formidable indeed, and unless he is thoroughly acquainted with forgery detection becomes very arduous. "Our friend the enemy," was fully alive to this difficulty and knew what he was about when he attempted to reproduce the early stamps of N.S.W. We append a photograph of a pair of the

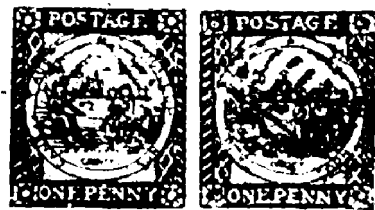
First Plate.



The two stamps differ from each other being separately engraved on the plate, but, *and this is essential*, do not in any way represent any two stamps on the original plate, as shown in the photographic reproduction published by the London Society in their magnificent work "Oceania." Therefore any stamp which closely resembles the above *must be forgeries*. I can give no distinctive feature, but the appearance of colour as well as postmark is suspiciously new, and the whole design has a somewhat scratchy appearance.

Of course, having once forged the first plate there was no reason why, after printing a sufficient supply, the plate should not be altered to represent the

Plate Two.



Of which the above is a faithful reproduction. My remarks as regards detection of the first plate fully apply to this one also.

PARAGUAY, \$5 and \$10.

There is no doubt that the more audaciously a swindle is launched, the more chance has the malefactor to succeed. How many of my readers I wonder are aware that the above stamps represent a set of two, *i.e.* \$5 blue and \$10 red, which



was gravely sent to all papers by an individual announcing them as a new issue, and just as gravely accepted by every paper duly chronicled, and sold by dealers, *although nobody ever received a single copy direct from Paraguay.* Messrs. Sent Brothers, from the very fact that their correspondents stoutly avowed that there was no such thing, grew suspicious and finally exposed the swindle. The whole thing was concocted by the men who were so successful with the Ceylon. The stamps are absolutely bogus.

AN INCENIOUS SWINDLE.

As soon as one fake is exposed, a new dodge is started to provide for the evident want of certain rare varieties. In many cases one stamp is common with C.A. watermark and rare with the C.C. watermark, and *vice versa*. For instance, Montserrat 4d. C.A. blue. To make this stamp, a copy of the 4d. C.C. is taken, the part of the stamp bearing the second C is carefully skinned out from the back and replaced by a part of any other West Indian stamp of the same design, printed on a C.A. watermark paper and showing the the A. This is so carefully done that the join is most difficult to detect, but if held to the light a perceptive difference exists in the crowns of the two watermarks. Even immersion in hot water will not separate the two pieces, no doubt some special kind of glue being used.

(To be continued).

City of London Philatelic Club.

Mr. NANKIVELL ON "GUMPAPS."

AT the meeting on March 21st there was a good attendance of members to hear Mr. Edward J. Nankivell's paper on "gumpaps."

Every collector, Mr. Nankivell said, was expected by certain noodles on the press to jump for joy whenever a new stamp made its appearance; but the day when new issues were welcomed in that way had long since gone by. It was now the urgent duty of philatelists to stem the outflow of this speculative rubbish. Could it be done? He thought it could. And he went on to suggest the appointment of a

committee of philatelists in each country, such committee to make representations to their Government with a view to stopping the issue of stamps whose postal character would not bear investigation. Finally it was resolved:—

"That this meeting of the City of London Philatelic Club is of opinion that the time has arrived when collectors and dealers should combine to put a stop to the sale of speculative issues made for collectors; and that the leading dealers should be approached with the view of inducing them, in future, to refrain from chronicling and cataloguing all doubtful issues until their postal bonafides had been established."

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian acknowledges with thanks the receipt of *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, *Monthly Offers*, and *The World's Exchange*.

Also the "Postage Stamps of the United States" (S. A. Wood, Hanley, Staff.), and "A Priced Catalogue of the Postage Adhesives of Great Britain" from the publisher, H. L'Éstrange Ewen, Swanage.

From France: *The Revue Philatelique*, and *Le Timbrophile Poitevin*.

From the United States: *The Philatelic Journal of America*, *Filatelic Facts and Fancies*, and *The Evergreen Philatelist*.

From Canada: *The Dominion Philatelist*.

From India: *The Indian Philatelist*.

Auction Catalogues from Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, and W. Ridout.

Also Davison's "Philatelic Concordance and Address Book" (Davison Publishing Co., 76, Broadway, New York.)

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of the members at our meetings every Thursday, at Cossavella's, 121, Cheapside, E.C. No meeting on March 28th.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP,

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

English Stamps Used Abroad.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

(continued from page 106.)

Bot.	
Alexandria.	2½d. lilac-rose, plate 1 (white and blue paper), 2, 3 (anchor), 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 (orbs), (also plate 7. Wmk. inverted.)
	2sh. blue.
Jamaica.	
A	27. 2d. blue.
"	28. 4d. rose (large garter).
"	30. 4d. " "
"	32. 6d. lilac (no letters).
"	33. 4d. rose (large garter).
"	6d. lilac (no letters).
"	35. 6d. " "
"	6d. grey-green, plate 13.
"	36. 4d. rose (large garter).
"	38. 6d. lilac, plate 5.
"	41. 1sh. green (no letters).
"	42. 6d. lilac " "
"	45. 6d. " " "
"	47. 4d. rose (large garter).
"	51. 4d. " " "
"	6d. lilac (no letters).
"	54. 4d. rose (large garter).
"	57. 4d. " " "
"	61. 4d. " " "
"	65. 6d. lilac (no letters).
"	71. 6d. " " "
"	73. 4d. rose (large garter).
"	75. 4d. " " "
"	78. 6d. lilac (no letters).
"	81. 6d. " " "

	(1d. rose, large crown, letters in corners.
" 83.	4d. " (large garter).
	6d. lilac (no letters).
" 98.	6d. " "
" 99.	1d. rose, large crown, letters in corners.
Virgin Islands.	
A	91. 4d. rose (large garter).
	6d. lilac (no letters).
B02	
Suez.	
	1d. rose-red, plate 80.
	2½d. lilac-rose, plates 1, 2, 3 (anchor), 3, 6, 7, 9 (orbs)
	4d. orange, plates 11, 12, 13, 14.
	4d. sage, plate 15.
	6d. lilac, (no letters), plate 3, 4, 5, 6 (emblems), 6, 8, 9 (spray).
	6d. pale buff, plate 11, 12.
	6d. dark buff, plate 11.
	6d. grey-green, plates 12, 13, 14, 15, 16.
	9d. bistre plate 2.
	1sh. green, (no letters), plates 2, 4 (emblems), 7, 8, 9, 11 (spray).
	2/- blue.
	5/- rose, plate 1.
B32	
Buenos	
	2d. blue, plate 9.
Ayres.	4d. orange, plates 11, 12.
	6d. lilac, no letters, plates 5, 9.
	9d. straw, plate 2.
	10d. pale brown.
	1sh. green, no letters, plates 2, 4 (emblems), 4, 5, 6, 7 (spray).
	2sh. blue.
	5sh. rose, plate 1.

(To be continued.)

It has been decided to form an Exchange Society, which would solely occupy itself with English stamps used abroad. It will be arranged in such a way that every member will obtain "first pick" once—that is to say, the Secretary will not have first pick every month, but will forward the packet intact. A subscription of 10/- will be charged to defray clerical expenses, as a special clerk will have to be engaged for the purpose of keeping the accounts. Nine members are already enrolled. Anyone who wishes to join will please send his name to my office, 64, Cheapside, when he will receive printed rules, &c.

H. H.



FULL details of our New Prize Competition, the time for which is now extended to June 30th, have been given in our Nos. 8 & 9. Space forbids repetition in this issue, but we may inform new readers that the competition is so arranged as to ensure a prize to each competitor who secures six new subscribers to the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY. Full particulars and forms to fill up can be had on application to the Editors, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Applications by post should be accompanied by an envelope, fully stamped and addressed.

To Postal Subscribers.

PLEASE find on this space a 1 anna Stamp of India, surcharged O.H.M.S., presented gratis to postal subscribers only.

If you don't file your "Fortnightlies," pass this number on to a friend;—

Under Bennett's Clock.

64, Cheapside, E.C.

WHEN children get out of their teens, they are generally made happy with a change of clothes similar to those worn by their parents. The "S.C.F." is just passing through the same period, and its fathers have been seriously contemplating, whether a change of attire would not be more becoming. You see, it has outgrown its infancy and its elder comrades are teasing it for still adhering to the baby frocks, in which it saw the light of day. It is the desire of every healthy boy to be the proud possessor of "man's clothing," and truth to say, the "S.C.F." is developing into a strapping boy, well liked everywhere, except by those sneaky characters who fear the light and shun honest society.

As happens with most babies, although its advent was well known to a select few, its first appearance was unexpected by outsiders. Preparations for its coming were made for many months past, although one critic avowed that the said preparations were of a somewhat hurried character. Babies are not as a rule dressed in the most expensive fabrics; experiments are not always launched in the most expensive style. However, our boy has been growing to such an extent, that the services of those most experienced tailors, Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., were employed to measure him for a new set of clothing. To-day he appears for the first time in his new suit. We hope it will please our readers as much as it has satisfied us, and we are very exacting.

In the near future, we hope to be able to improve the quality of our paper in order to show up the illustrations better. The more our readers help us to increase our subscription list, the sooner shall we be able to offer them an even more gigantic pennyworth.

We do not wish to make any direct profit out of the "S.C.F.", as we know full well that the mere fact of our being at the head of such a paper is sufficient to create that confidence without which no firm of any standing is able to exist. Business naturally follows, and, as a matter of fact, has increased to such an extent during the last six months that we have been unable to cope with it to our own satisfaction.

For years it has been our desire to publish a paper which should be written by collectors for collectors, without any sordid trade interest, and that such a thing is possible the very existence of the "S.C.F." is sufficient proof.

ENGLISH ALBUM.

We have just published a popular edition at 2/6 post free, which we hope will be well received.

DUPLICATE STOCK BOOKS.

A most artistic edition of these very popular books has been prepared in a variety of leather bindings (pocket book fashion) from 5/6 to 10/6 each; for particulars see advertisement.

HARRY HILCKES.

A PERSONAL EXPLANATION.

DEAR MR. HILCKES,—Before leaving London you very kindly offered to allow me to make a statement in the *STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY* in regard to my affairs which I considered was perhaps necessary in view of my departure from your city. As many of your readers are doubtless aware, my stamp dealing experiments in London ended in a severe loss to myself, due, I may say, in some measure, to dishonesty on the part of others, and illhealth of myself and family, and with the consequent expense entailed. This has, unfortunately, prevented my "squaring up" all my liabilities, but as they are not very serious, and I have succeeded in obtaining an important commission to visit Asia and West Australia in connection with journalistic and mining matters, I shall be in a position to pay up everyone within the next twelve months at latest. Those who know me personally will not,

I think, have had any doubts in regard to my honesty, and I trust this somewhat public explanation will end any suspicions on the part of others. Will you allow me to add that I have had no direct interest in my old Sydney business since October, 1893. My successor, Mr. Fred Hagen, is in a strong financial position, and I can recommend him as a straightforward, prompt business man and a thorough philatelist. Thanking you for your valued advice and sympathy at all times,

Believe me, yours sincerely,

Port Said, March 25th, 1895. DAWSON A. VINDIN.

Our Forum.

** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

SIR HENRY BESSEMER—A CORRECTION.

DEAR SIRS.—The paragraph from *Answers*, quoted on p. 105 of the "S.C.F.", is utterly wrong in the statements made.

Sir Henry Bessemer is not the inventor of the machine used to emboss deed stamps in use at Somerset House, and the idea of £100,000 a year being lost 'by robbery' is simply wild and might be misconstrued as a libel on a most meritorious class of public servants.

Stamps are embossed mostly by hand presses, a few used chiefly for oval stamps on penny receipts being worked by steam power. There never has been lack of ingenuity in devising or adopting improvements at Somerset House. Among others Mr. Ormond Hill and Mr. Norfolk, who lately retired, invented many details, but substantially the system is what it has been since the first introduction of embossed stamps, *temp.*: William and Mary, at the end of the seventeenth century. Sir Henry Bessemer has many and just titles to fame as an inventor; and his reputation does not need fictitious support.

In justice to a well served and hard worked public Department I ask you to contradict the absurdly misleading statement of *Answers*, and let us charitably hope the Editor was ignorant of the facts.

Your faithfully,

23rd March, 1895. FREDERICK A. PHILBRICK.

HOW TO KILL GUMPAPS.

DEAR SIRS,—Thanks for the insertion of my letter in your last.

I think the time has now come for action in re "Gumpaps," the advent of the Ichang labels with limited issue (so clearly showing their nature) proving "the last straw, &c." The most expeditious way would be for all collectors to band themselves together to form an "Anti-gumpap League," refusing to admit into their albums any stamps made solely for sale to collectors, or those which have this for their primary "raison d'être." This would include all Seebecks, all Chinese Locals, most of the French coloured surcharges, and the Portuguese provisionals and celebration stamps. In certain cases—Straits Settlements and Liberia for instance—it is hard to draw the line; but a committee of the League meeting say, once in three months might easily settle this matter.

There remains but the question of starting the League, and receiving names; I venture to suggest that the "S.C.F." might consent to print the names of new members every fortnight, in case of need as an extra supplement; or better still to send out printed forms in the same way as the *Millon* did for subscribers to collect names. I will guarantee to do my best for the multiplication of unnecessary issues is a common evil, which *must* have an adverse influence on stamp-collecting sooner or later.

The only difficulty is to start the League once on its legs. I venture to prophesy that it will soon make its power felt, and gumpaps will die a natural death. Yours truly, W.B.E.

Perhaps a trifle optimistic at present!!!

He will be the gainer and you will have lost nothing.

WANTED A "GUMPAP DIRECTORY."

DEAR SIRS,—Although it is now midnight I must not allow another day to pass without renewing my subscription to the "S.C.F."

When I saw the first number of your paper, I felt perfectly certain it was going to be a grand success. This was not a guess, but the opinion of a philatelic reader off and on,—very much off, in truth—for about 30 years; and if you should be compelled to double the price, I for one, will not begrudge it.

Re "Gumpaps." I am surprised no one has yet suggested that the "Gumpap Directory" might with great advantage be soon started in the "S.C.F." I should dearly like to see published an up-to-date list of

"GUMPAPS, OR WHAT TO AVOID,"

concluding with "to be continued." I humbly suggest that you consider the advisability of so doing for the benefit of "Decorators" and "New beginners." Yours faithfully,

Londonderry, 21st March, 1895. J.L.

STAMP MENDING TO BE DEPRECATED.

GENTLEMEN,—I venture my opinion on the question of mended stamps. I veritably think that no mended stamp of any kind should be sold without clearly describing it as such. Many a time and oft I have bought stamps from exchange sheets, and found to my intense disgust that when I have attempted to clean off old hinges, surplus fragments of envelopes, &c., that they have been in ever so many pieces. This is too bad. But while condemning as a "fake" the mended stamp not described as such, there are occasions when collectors of moderate purse are glad to pick up a torn copy of a rarity at say one-tenth of catalogue value, knowing full well that unless represented in their columns by something obtained thus, it is long odds against certain rarities ever being represented there by anything but a blank space. The practise of mending torn stamps with pieces of others, adding perfs. from edging of rd. English, mounting octagonal Ceylons which have been cut to shape, &c., is altogether to be deprecated. This is the candid opinion of

A SUBSCRIBER FROM THE FIRST.

IS A MENDED STAMP A FAKE?

DEAR SIR,—May I be permitted to give my opinion on this subject, "Is a mended stamp a fake?" I have in my collection a mended stamp. I have put the two halves together to make the whole. I would rather keep this stamp in my album until I get a perfect specimen than throw it away. "Fideliter" mentions two classes of mended stamps. His first kind I strongly condemn, but I consider that my mended stamp comes in the second class.

I remain, yours truly,
STAMPOLOGY.

A MENDED STAMP NOT A FAKE.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to Fideliter's letter in "S.C.F." of 23rd ult., I should say emphatically that a mended stamp *pure and simple* is not a fake, but one made up of portions of other stamps similar in colour and design is certainly a "fake direct" and should be excluded from all collections.

One often meets with mended stamps of our present issue undoubtedly caused through the B.P. not being experts in separating them. Thanking you in anticipation for inserting the above in your next issue.

Eastbourne, 1st April, 1895. WISHERWELL.

To Our Contemporaries.

WE desire to exchange regularly with every philatelic journal at home or abroad. Will all those editors who have not yet done so kindly send *two* copies of their publications, and we shall be pleased to reciprocate.

Answers to Correspondents.

** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c. and so on.

UN COMMERCANT.—The collection you sent for valuation; we think you can safely give from £6 to £7 for it.

F.E.W.—All the stamps mentioned in your list are remainders, not reprints.

L.A.B.—Probably the enlargement will become a necessity shortly. The word "subscriber," in the connection you refer to means of course a postal subscriber. No trouble at all; always delighted to hear from our readers.

R. E. L. P. (Holborn).—The postcard you send is of no philatelic value whatever. The Costa Rica with surcharge "official" is altogether bogus. The early issues of this country have never been issued surcharged; the explanation is, that when the remainders were sold, the buyer, a dealer, had a large quantity surcharged with the word "official," thus increasing his sales. Stamps returned, March 22nd.

A. A. G. (Ashton).—You will have noticed from our last number that a series of articles are commenced to assist young philatelists. We shall illustrate it wherever possible.

YOUNG'US: (a). The stamps penstroked in the way you describe are either fiscal stamps or postage stamps used fiscally. (b) The network across the centre of your Belgian stamps is merely the obliteration used for parcels post in Belgium.

ROSSETT, (Fulham).—The postmark you mention is a local one. We can give no valuation of stamps.

E. G. T. (Anerley).—Yes, a complete Index will be published at the end of the year.

G. B. (Lucerne).—There is as yet no catalogue giving the price of all English stamps used abroad, and at present it is almost impossible to give any value for these varieties, since many are only known in very limited quantities. We may perhaps make an attempt in the 2nd edition of our English Catalogue.

O. W. (Liverpool).—You will have seen from the last number, that we have commenced an article which will embody all the knowledge necessary to the budding philatelist.

—May we request all readers not to ask us to price stamps for them. This is information which can easily be obtained through any Catalogue and although we always like to oblige, we cannot possibly afford the time taken up by the reply of such queries.

BACK NUMBERS.

We have still Complete Sets left in Stock at the uniform rate of 13d. each, post free, but as we are running short of No. 3 we have raised the price to 3d. per copy for that number.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.—Pages of Two Columns.

For One Insertion	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Page	5 0 0	Whole Page	3 0 0
Half Page	2 15 0	Half Page	2 5 0
Quarter Page	1 10 0	Quarter Page	1 5 0
One Eighth Page	0 15 0	One-Eighth Page	0 12 6

Pages of Three Columns.

For One Insertion—	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Column	1 15 0	Whole Column	1 8 0
Half Column	0 18 0	Half Page	0 15 0
Quarter Column	0 10 0	Quarter Page	0 8 6
One Inch	0 5 0	One Inch	0 3 6

TERMS:—Strictly Cash with Order.

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THE STAMP COLLECTORS'

COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1895.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

Class a—Superb condition, if unused with gum, (mint state), if used, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

Continued from page 12.

The London Philatelic Co., March 20, 1895.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- emerald	0	18	0
a	Ceylon, 4d. rose, perf., star wmk.	1	1	0
c	Great Britain, 2 - red-brown	1	12	0
c	£5, used postally	2	14	0
a	Levant, 6k. blue, unused	0	19	0
b	Madeira, 24or. lilac, value in curve	1	0	0
c	Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d. early state, slight tear	1	18	0
c	ditto 1d. late state, 2 copies	1	6	0
b	Natal, 4d. brown, perf. 12½, unused	1	4	0
b	Another, used	0	11	0
b	Nevis, 4d. yellow, litho, unused	6	6	0
c	1/- green, perf. 13	1	10	0
a	1/- green, perf. 15	1	5	0
a	6d. green, C.A., unused	10	10	0
b	Another, used	8	0	0
a	New Brunswick, 3d. red, on original	0	19	0
c	6d. yellow	1	2	0
b	Newfoundland, 1/- lake	1	0	0
b	New South Wales, 5 - (map), wmk. 5	0	11	0
b	New Zealand, 1d. vermilion, thick paper, unused	0	15	0
a	Nova Scotia, 8½c. green	1	4	0
b	Philippines, (1863), 2r. blue, pair unused	3	0	0
b	Queensland, 1d. orange, small star, unused	0	11	0
a	3d. brown, large star, unused	0	15	0
a	Registered, maize, 2 unused copies	1	1	0
b	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-grey, C.A., unused	2	10	0
c	St. Vincent, 4d. orange, no wmk.	1	15	0
a	1/- grey, unused	1	0	0
a	Sierra Leone, 5/- black surcharge on 1 - green, penmark	0	16	0
b	South Australia, 10d. black on gd. orange, perf., unused	1	5	0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue, unused	2	12	6
c	Another, used, fine margins but crack	1	10	0
a	Tobago, 6d. ochre, C.A., unused	10	0	0
c	Turks Island, 1/- prune, slightly clipped	6	0	0
b	United States, New York P.O., 5c. black, signed and used	1	1	0
b	30c. orange, grilled twice	1	5	0
c	(1869), 90c. block of 6	12	0	0
b	ditto complete set	3	12	6
b	ditto 24c. green and purple	0	18	0
b	(1855), 90c. blue, penmark	1	14	0
b	Victoria, 2/- green, roulette on two sides	0	10	0
c	Western Australia, 6d. bronze-black, nick	2	0	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON March 27, 1895				
c	Brazil, 180r. italic figures	1	4	0
c	430r. perf.	0	14	0
c	Bremen, 10gr. black, percé en scie, mended	1	2	0
c	British Columbia, 10c. blue, imperf. mended	1	4	0
a	British Guiana, first issue, 4c. primrose on tissue paper, cut square, on entire original, two copies fetched each	60	0	0
a	ditto 4c. orange and 8c. green, both on same envelope and cut square	120	0	0
c	ditto 8c. green, on original, cut round	24	0	0
c	Another ditto	20	0	0
b	ditto 12c. light blue, on original cut, round	14	0	0
b	Another ditto	12	10	0
b	(1851), 4c. blue, on original	8	0	0
b	Another ditto	6	15	0
b	Cape of Good Hope, wood block, 1d. red	2	4	0
c	Nevis, 1d. lake, perf. 13, unused	0	5	0
b	4d. pale rose, ditto ditto	2	15	0
b	6d. grey, ditto ditto	2	6	0
c	1 - green, ditto ditto	2	6	0
b	Newfoundland, 4d. orange-vermilion	1	16	0
c	6d. orange-vermilion	1	0	0
a	New South Wales, laureated, 6d. brown	1	4	0
a	New Zealand, 2d. blue, imperf. on blue, strip of 3	2	4	0
a	Nova Scotia, 8½c. green, 2 unused, averaged	1	0	6
b	Oldenburg, first issue, 4sgr. green	1	10	0
b	ditto ½ thaler, rose, unused	2	6	0
b	third issue, 4sgr. unused	1	12	0
b	ditto 4sgr. unused	1	4	0
b	Portugal, first issue, 100r. lilac	2	0	0
c	Shanghai, first issue, 3 cand. antique numeral, mended	0	7	0
b	Soruth, first issue, 1a. black on blue laid, 2 on entires	1	4	0
b	ditto 4 of the same on pieces of original	2	4	0
c	4a. on pink laid paper	0	10	0
c	1a. rose, on entire, 2 copies	0	10	0
c	ditto 3 of the same on pieces of original	1	5	0
c	1a. black on blue laid, 2 on entires	0	12	0
a	South Australia, 2 - carmine, impression on back, strip of 3	3	0	0
c	Tasmania, 1d. blue	2	0	0
a	United States, Washington City, "One Cent Despatch"	0	15	0
b	(1869), 90c. black and rose	1	9	0
b	(1870), 30c. black, grill	1	1	0
b	Columbus, 1 dollar	0	14	0
c	Western Australia, 2d. brown-red, cut to shape	0	18	0
c	Another, mounted	0	15	0
c	6d. bronze-black, cut to shape	0	14	0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, March 28 and 29, 1895.

b	Antioquia, first issue, 2½c. blue, penmark	10	0	0
b	ditto 1 peso red, unused	4	10	0
c	Austria, Mercury, rose, faded	0	16	0
a	Barbados, 5 - rose, unused	3	10	0
c	Bolivar, first issue, 10c. green, cut close	3	0	0
a	Bolivia, 500c. black, 9 stars, unused	1	10	0
a	500c. black, 11 stars, unused	3	5	0
b	Brazil, second issue, 180 reis	2	4	0
b	ditto 300 reis, unused	3	12	6
a	ditto 600 reis	4	4	0
b	British Columbia, 50c., violet and red, perf. 12½, unused	2	0	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.			CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.						
		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.				
b	British Columbia, 10c. pink and blue, ditto ditto	..	2	17	6	c	New Brunswick, 1/- mauve, thinned	..	..	6	15	0	
b	1 dollar green, ditto, used	..	..	2	15	0	a	Connell proof ..	..	..	1	10	0
c	British Guiana, 12c. blue, cut round	..	..	8	10	0	a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. gooseberry, plate 2	..	..	1	14	0
b	(1851), 1c. magenta, cut close	..	..	1	18	0	a	ditto ditto red ditto	..	..	1	10	0
c	(1856), 4c. crimson, corners clipped	..	..	10	10	0	a	ditto 2d. blue, plate 1, very fine	..	..	7	10	0
c	(1862), 1c. rose, crossed ovals, mended	..	..	1	5	0	a	ditto ditto ditto retouch	..	..	1	10	0
a	ditto, 1c. rose, vert. strip of 3 (Nos. 11, 17 and 23) unused and unsigned	..	..	7	10	0	a	ditto 3d. green, very fine	..	..	2	6	0
c	ditto 2c. yellow, crossed ovals (No. 12)	..	..	5	10	0	b	ditto ditto on bluish	..	..	0	14	0
c	ditto ditto pearls (No. 14), cut close	..	..	1	14	0	a	Laureated, 8d. yellow	..	..	1	19	0
c	ditto ditto grapes (No. 23), cut close	..	..	1	18	0	c	20/- blue, unused	..	..	3	3	0
a	ditto 4c. blue, hearts and pearls (No. 6), unused and unsigned	..	..	9	0	0	c	Nova Scotia, 1/- violet, much cut into	..	..	2	2	0
b	ditto ditto rosaces (No. 20), cut close	..	..	2	4	0	b	Oldenburg, second issue, 3/8gr., fine margins	..	..	5	5	0
a	(1876), 96c. drab, unused	..	..	3	7	6	a	ditto 2gr., black on rose	..	..	1	12	0
c	Buenos Ayres, 3 pesos green, cut at bottom	..	..	0	16	0	b	third issue, 3/8gr., green	..	..	0	18	0
b	4 pesos brown	..	..	1	16	0	c	Peru, Medio Peso, yellow	..	..	2	0	0
c	5 pesos orange, corners mended	..	..	2	2	0	a	Philippines, first issue, 5c. orange	..	..	2	10	0
b	Canada, 7 1/2d. green	..	..	2	2	0	b	ditto 10c. deep carmine, unused	..	..	1	6	0
c	1/2d. rose, perf. 12, unused	..	..	0	18	0	b	Lithograph, 5c. red, unused	..	..	2	0	0
b	6d. black, perf. 12	..	..	3	10	0	b	(1863) 1r. violet, "Habilitado por la Nacion"	..	..	2	4	0
b	Cape, woodblock, 1d. red	..	..	2	6	0	a	(1877) 2c. de peso blue	..	..	1	10	0
c	ditto 4d. dark blue, cut close	..	..	2	12	6	a	Roumania, 50 bani, beard, unused	..	..	2	0	0
c	Cashmere, first issue, 3/4a. dark green, cut oct., unused	..	..	1	10	0	a	St. Lucia, 1/- black and orange, unused	..	..	3	10	0
a	ditto 1a. dark mauve, cut square, unused	..	..	4	0	0	b	St. Vincent, 4d. yellow, unused	..	..	2	15	0
b	ditto 1a. ultramarine, unused	..	..	2	15	0	a	4d. on 1/- black and vermilion	..	..	7	7	0
a	Ceylon, 4d. rose, imperf., fine	..	..	20	0	0	b	Schleswig Holstein, 4sch. bistre	..	..	1	16	0
b	8d. brown, imperf., torn through	..	..	3	3	0	b	Shanghai, (1867), 1 can. brown, unused pair, one with error	..	..	0	15	0
c	1/9 green, imperf., unused, cut	..	..	1	18	0	b	South Australia, 10d. blue and yellow, crown and S.A. wmk.	..	..	7	0	0
b	ditto ditto, a pair	..	..	11	0	0	b	P.S., on 3d. red and blue	..	..	2	0	0
c	2/- blue, imperf., unused, fine margins but slight tear	..	..	12	12	0	b	Spain, (1851), 2 reales red, unused	..	..	33	0	0
a	Service, 2/- blue, imperf., unused	..	..	5	0	0	c	(1852), ditto unused, small tear in margin, otherwise fine	..	..	20	0	0
b	Columbia, (1860), 10c. green, unused	..	..	0	10	0	c	(1853), ditto, slight tear	..	..	5	5	0
b	(1861), 24c. black	..	..	2	0	0	b	(1865), 19cts. brown and rose, perf., unused	..	..	2	0	0
c	(1862), 20c. red, corners clipped	..	..	0	15	0	b	(1869), 19cts. brown	..	..	1	2	0
b	ditto 50c. green, unused	..	..	1	0	0	b	Switzerland, Geneva, 5c. yellow green, 2 copies	..	..	1	2	0
b	ditto 1 peso lilac, unused	..	..	3	17	6	b	Neufchatel, 5c. skinned	..	..	0	16	0
a	ditto 1 peso lilac on bluish, postmark	..	..	2	10	0	c	Winterthur, 24c.	..	..	2	2	0
a	Confederate States, Athens, 5c. purple	..	..	1	18	0	c	Zurich, 4r., horizontal lines, damaged	..	..	2	5	0
b	Charleston, 5c. blue	..	..	1	8	0	b	ditto, 6r., horizontal and vertical, 2 copies	..	..	2	2	0
c	Knoxville, 5c. red, unused	..	..	0	15	0	b	ditto, ditto, 2 copies, one on piece of original	..	..	3	0	0
b	Lynchburg, 5c. blue, unused	..	..	1	10	0	a	Orts Post, 24r., no border line	..	..	1	1	0
b	Macon, 5c. on green paper	..	..	3	12	6	b	Tasmania, 1d. blue	..	..	2	2	0
b	Mobile, 5c. blue	..	..	1	10	0	b	Tolima, first issue, 5c. black on wove, unused	..	..	1	0	0
c	Nashville, 5c. brown, torn	..	..	1	1	0	a	Trinidad, lithograph, fine impression, 1d. blue	..	..	3	5	0
a	Petersburg, 5c. red, on piece of original	..	..	2	17	6	a	Turkey (1867), unpaid, 25 piastres brown, unused	..	..	0	6	0
b	Denmark, first issue, 2rbs. blue, unused	..	..	1	10	0	b	Tuscany, 6ocr. red	..	..	9	0	0
b	Dominican Republic, first issue, 3/4r. rose	..	..	1	2	0	b	9cr. on white paper	..	..	2	10	0
b	ditto 3/4r. green, unused	..	..	3	5	0	c	3 lire yellow, cut at top and heavy postmark	..	..	26	0	0
c	ditto 1r. straw, cut close	..	..	6	6	0		<i>United States.</i>					
a	Dutch Indies, Unpaid Letter, 5c. yellow, unused	..	..	1	12	0	b	Brattleboro, 5c. buff, Reserve £100	..	..	100	0	0
a	Fernando Poo, 20c. brown, error Fernando, unused	..	..	1	18	0	a	New York, 5c. black on piece of original	..	..	1	4	0
a	Fiji, 12c. with Gothic V.R., unused	..	..	1	10	0	b	Providence, 10c. black, unused	..	..	3	10	0
b	France, 1 franc vermilion	..	..	6	10	0	a	St. Louis, 10c. black, 3 copies fetched £18, £18 and £19 respectively	..	..	..	..	..
a	Great Britain, the V.R. unused with part gum	..	..	11	0	0	c	Government City Despatch, 1c. black on piece of original with a 3c. stamp	..	..	0	17	0
b	£5 orange, telegraphic cancel	..	..	2	15	0	a	U.S. City Despatch Post, 3c. black on blue, on part letter	..	..	2	0	0
b	Hamburg, 4 sch. green, imperf.	..	..	0	16	0	a	ditto 3c. black on green	..	..	2	2	0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green, imperf.	..	..	2	10	0	a	U.S. Mail Prepaid, 1c. black on rose, circular, on piece of original	..	..	1	12	0
c	India, Service, 4a. green and lilac	..	..	1	10	0	b	(1857) 90c. blue, unused	..	..	2	10	0
a	Levant, 6k. blue, unused	..	..	1	5	0	a	(1868) 3c. rose, grill covering stamp, unused	..	..	5	0	0
a	2 piastres red and blue, unused	..	..	7	0	0	c	ditto grill 13mm. by 16mm. unused, slight tear	..	..	2	0	0
b	Lubeck, 2 1/2sch. brown, unused	..	..	2	2	0	c	(1869) 15c. brown and blue, inverted centre, badly damaged	..	..	5	10	0
b	Madeira, second issue, 240 reis	..	..	1	3	0	a	City Despatch Post, 3c. black on white, on entire	..	..	1	4	0
a	Magdalena, (1867) 20c. blue, unused	..	..	1	14	0	b	Another	..	..	0	14	0
a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. early state	..	..	6	0	0	c	ditto 2c. black on green, C.C. at sides	..	..	0	10	0
b	ditto ditto later state	..	..	1	10	0	b	Letter Express, 5c. pink, on piece of original, penmark	..	..	0	10	0
c	ditto 2d. early state, cut close	..	..	3	0	0	b	East River P.O., 18 Ave., D., green, unused	..	..	0	10	0
b	Britannia, 4d. black on green	..	..	2	12	6	c	Wells, Fargo & Co., black (Scott, 2039), unused	..	..	0	5	0
b	Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 2sch. grey-lilac	..	..	3	3	0							
a	Mecklenburg-Strelitz, 1sch. violet	..	..	4	10	0	c	Victoria, (1867), 1d. green, wmk. 6, unused	..	..	1	1	0
c	Mexico, 3c. brown, eagle, surch. 55, 866 and Mexico in Gothic, unused and thinned	..	..	4	7	6	a	5/- blue on yellow, cut badly	..	..	1	0	0
b	Another, without surcharge, unused	..	..	1	12	6	c	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, single line	..	..	4	0	0
a	Modena, 25c. black on green	..	..	0	10	0	c	Western Australia, first issue, 6d. cut square	..	..	1	15	0
a	Moldavia, 54 paras blue on green	..	..	13	0	0	a	ditto 1/- red-brown	..	..	2	14	0
a	108 paras, blue on pink	..	..	31	0	0	b	ditto 1/- brown, pair	..	..	2	4	0
a	Naples, 3/4 tornese blue, cross	..	..	4	0	0	a	Wurtemberg, 70kr. marone, unused	..	..	3	0	0
a	50gr. lake	..	..	2	12	6							
b	Nevia, 1/- green, on bluish	..	..	5	10	0							
a	Newfoundland, 4d. orange, vermilion	..	..	3	12	6							
b	6 1/2d. carmine-vermilion, cut close, unused	5	12	6							
c	1/- orange-vermilion, cut in half, no margins	3	0	0							

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LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE 74th meeting was held on March 8th. An informal Exchange and Exhibit night, at which four members attended.

The 75th meeting was held on March 16th. Twelve present, the President and (during the reading of the paper) Mr. John H. Thackrah, vice-president, in the chair. Among the stamps shown were used examples of 2 annas and 4 annas, Poonch, on pieces of original envelopes, brought by Mr. Egley.

The President then continued the description of the Stamps of Victoria, taking the complicated issues through which the 11th and 12th types of the London Society's work on Oceania. It was illustrated by his own and the collections of Messrs. J. H. Thackrah, Jefferson, and Egley.—W. DENISON ROEBUCK, *Hon. Sec.*, Sunny Bank, Leeds.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE usual fortnightly meeting was held on Friday, March 15th, at the Blackfriars Hotel, Mr. G. B. Duerst in the chair.

Mr. W. D. Beckton read a paper on the postage stamps of Italy. United Italy, as a Kingdom, only dates back about forty years, up to which period it was sub-divided into numerous states, such as Tuscany, Modena, Parma, Naples, Sicily, and Roman States, each separate state issuing stamps of its own. In 1805 Napoleon was crowned King of Italy, but the Congress of Vienna restored the map of Italy to its former appearance. The Franco-Austrian war of 1059 ended in the cession of Lombardy and part of Venetia to Sardinia. Soon after the Central Italian States joined the Kingdom of Sardinia and Southern Italy and welcomed Garibaldi and expelled the Bourbons. In 1866, the Austro-Prussian war gave Venice to Italy, and during the Franco-German contest Victor Emmanuel entered Rome, henceforth the Capital. The unification of the Kingdom was now practically complete, though ardent Italian patriots still regard the Southern Tyrol, Istria, the Dalmatian Coast, Nice and Savoy as "Italia Irredenta," whose incorporation is yet to be. The first stamps were issued in January, 1851, and consisted of three values five, twenty, and forty centesimi. This and the subsequent issues of 1853 and 1854 are known as the stamps of Sardinia. On January 1st, 1858, appeared the first stamps of the Kingdom of Italy. All the issues and varieties were fully described in detail.

Mr. Beckton and Mr. E. Petri both exhibited a fine collection of the stamps of Italy.

LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

AT the fifteenth meeting of the season, held at Effingham House on Friday, February 22nd, Mr. M. P. Castle read a paper entitled "A Philatelic Rock Ahe'd," dealing with the great danger to philately caused by the increase of stamps produced for sale to collectors, and not for legitimate postal requirements. On the motion of Mr. Nankivell, seconded by the Secre-

tary, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Castle for his very interesting and valuable paper. A lengthy discussion on the best mode of dealing with the mischief pointed out by Mr. Castle, followed the reading of the paper, and ultimately notice was given that at a later meeting the Vice-President would move, and Mr. Nankivell would second, a resolution "That this Society is of opinion that the great increase in the production of speculative stamps for sale to collectors threatens to have a very serious effect on the collection of genuine postal issues throughout the world, and that a Committee be appointed to consider the best means to be adopted to put a stop to the scandal."

The sixteenth meeting was devoted to the Society's reference lists.

At the seventeenth meeting, held on March 8th, the Secretary (Mr. J. A. Tilleard) called attention to the death of the Grand Duke Alexis, and a sympathetic resolution was the result.

Mr. Geo. Köster sent for the inspection of the members specimens of the rare local stamps used in Chiapas, Mexico, in 1867.

Mr. T. Wickham Jones then read a paper on "The large Rectangular Stamps of Shanghai," in which he entered into a detailed criticism of Mr. Thornhill's recently published handbook, emphasising and giving his reasons for many differences of opinion as to the various and interesting issues in question. By way of illustrating his paper Mr. Wickham Jones exhibited his own magnificent collection of the stamps under consideration.

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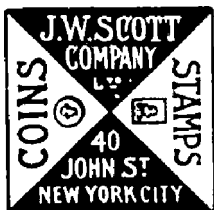
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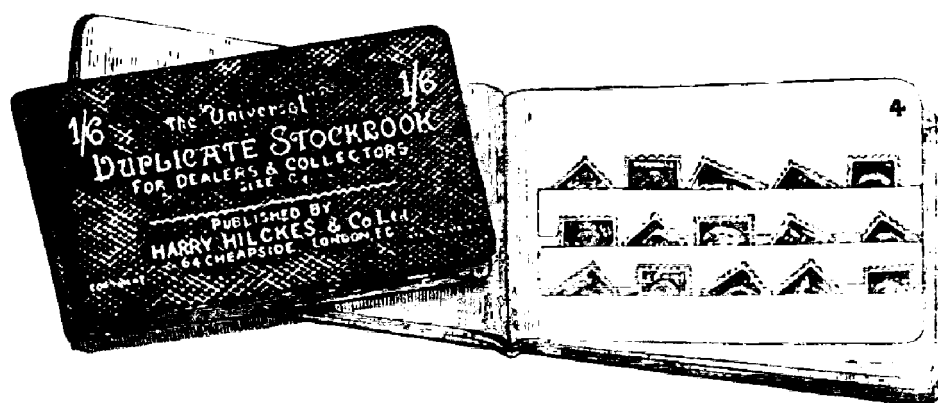
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"	II. - "Pressed Seal"	"	5 3
"	III. - "Morocco"	"	6 3
"	IV. - "Russia," Sheep lining	"	6 6
"	V. - "English Monton"	"	8/3
"	VI. - "Russia," Calf lining	"	10/6

JUST THE THING FOR A PRESENT.

HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

AUCTIONS.

Our Mr. H. attends every Sale held in London and undertakes Commission at the following Rates:—

10% for Lots under £10. . . .
 . . . 5% for Lots at £10 and over.

THIS INCLUDES
EXAMINING, REPORTING, and CLEARING.

Harry Hilckes & Co. Ltd.
 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

THE LONDON PHILATELIC CO.,
 23, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, London, W.

Beg to announce that their next

AUCTION SALE

WILL TAKE PLACE

On Wednesday, May 1st, 1895,

AT THE

CAFE MONICO, Piccadilly Circus,

WHEN A

Very Fine Private Collection

WILL BE SOLD.

Lots include: Great Britain, 2/- red-brown, 2d. blue, large crown, perf. 14, unused, 6d. octagonal, unused; Hanover, 10gr., record specimen, unused; Newfoundland, 1/-; New Brunswick, 1/- and 6d.; Nevis, 6d. litho, 1/- yellow-green, unused, 1/- blue-green, unused; Tobago, C. and CA., 6d. ochre; British Guiana, 1856, Provisionals (a very fine lot); Ceylon, 8d. imperf., 1/- imperf., strip of 5, 6d., no wmk., unused; Trinidad, 6d. imperf., unused, superb; Natal, 3d. blue, imperf.; Oldenburg, 1gr., used; and a superb Collection of the Colombian Republic, including first issues, Tolima, Santander, Antioquia, &c.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The Auctioneers desire to state that under NO CIRCUMSTANCES do they purchase, or cause to be purchased for them, any lots at their own Sales, nor do they receive COMMISSIONS.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEPARTMENTS.

A fine stock of Rare Stamps of Great Britain, Colonies, and U.S.A. New Brunswick, 1 - superb; Great Britain, 2/- red-brown, used and unused; Mulready Envelopes and Wrappers, 2d. blue, complete sheets of each; Nevis, 6d. green; and other rarities of the West Indies and North America now on Sale

In Preparation and will be Ready shortly:

A Catalogue of the Stamps of Great Britain, West Indies and the United States, giving latest Market Value. Price, 1s.

PERIODICAL SALES BY AUCTION

— OF —

RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

ORIGINATED IN THIS COUNTRY BY

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,

At the ST. MARTIN'S, TOWN HALL,

CHARING CROSS, S.W.

DATES OF SALE, 1895.

May 7 and 8, and 23 and 24 | June 13.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, In announcing their Future Dates, beg to draw attention to the following important Sales:—

May 7 & 8.—Including a fine collection of New South Wales (broken up), the Sydney views, laureated, etc., amongst which are many fine specimens, and pairs will all be accurately described as regards position on plate, paper, colour and condition, also entire sheets of early Europeans, the remainder of the collection of Vernon Roberts, Esq., containing many rarities and the following:—

Baden: 1st issue, 9kr. black on green, error of colour.
 France: A strip of 6, 1st issue, 1 franc, the first stamp being tête-bêche.

Spain: An unused pair of 19c., brown and rose, perforated.

Ceylon: 4d., 8d. and 9d. imperf. and fine.

Labuan: Provisional 6c. on 16c., red surcharge.

Natal: 1st issue complete.

Newfoundland: 6½d. carmine, used.

Pacific Steam Navigation Co.: 2 rls, red, used.

Peru: Medio peso, rose, and a very fine collection, nearly complete.

Queensland: Unused pairs of the (small size) 2/6, 5/-, 10/-, and 20/-, with gum.

and a few Collections.

May 23 & 24.—A fine selection, including Natal, 1st issue, 6d. green, cut in half and used as 3d., on piece of original; Mauritius, the large fillet, 2d. blue; Transvaal, 6d. blue with red surcharge, printed twice; Canada, strip of 3d. rose, imperf.; halves of stamps of Prince Edward's Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, used on the entire envelope; France, 1st issue, a strip of six, 1 franc, one stamp tête bêche, issued on piece of original; Ceylon, 1st issue, 6d. rouletted; New South Wales, 6d. violet, wmk., 12 unused, with gum, and many others, also several fine collections.

It is particularly requested that Owners desirous of obtaining Special Days of Sale, should communicate as early as possible, in order that due publicity may be given. Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, they have decided to issue them, in all cases where practicable, at least one month before the date of Sale. In order to enable them to carry out this arrangement, Owners intending to include Stamps, should forward them at the earliest possible moment.

CATALOGUES may be had of

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper,

35, Old Jewry, London, E.C.

The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

CONDUCTED BY
HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:
The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society.

No. 15.—Vol. I. SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1895. ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	121
Scientific Philately made Easy	121
Philately at Home	122
English Stamps Used Abroad	122
Under Bennett's Clock	123
Between Ourselves	124
Minor Varieties U.S.A.	125
Philately Abroad	126
City of London Philatelic Club	127
Our Forum	127
Answers to Correspondents	128
Philatelic Events	128

Philatelic Personalities.

PHILATELY is getting to be quite the swagger hobby out in India. The Rajahs themselves are taking to it. The Maharajah of Kapurthala, among others, is smitten with the stamp fever. His Maharajahship attended the recent exhibition promoted by the Philatelic Society of Bengal, and was "much interested."

* * *

MR. C. B. DONNE, whose name is well-known among Melbourne stampists, has taken unto himself a wife in the daughter of Mr. George H. Kohler, of St. Kilda. May they be ever an undivided pair!

* * *

WE have only lately discovered that the signature "A. M. Phillips," attached to a recent able article on "Philately" in *Winter's Weekly* belongs to a sister of our only Charles J. The article, which, if we remember right, appeared sometime in February, struck us as a remarkably able piece of work, and we had serious thoughts of annexing portions of it. But though the spirit was willing the "space" was weak.

* * *

ONE of our most earnest "anti-gumpappers" is Mr. H. R. Oldfield, of Brighton, a popular member of the London Society, and we are happy to add, a constant reader of the FORTNIGHTLY. Mr. Oldfield has heartily sympathised with the crusade against "gumpaps" from its inception, and he is undoubtedly the right man in the right place as Hon.

Secretary of the "Gumpap" Committee (if we may so christen it) just appointed by the London Philatelic Society.

WE shall see a new hand wielding the philatelic auction hammer ere long—possibly before the close of the present season. His "license" is already applied for.

Scientific Philately Made Easy.


I.—PERFORATIONS.—By DR. BRYANT.

(Continued from page 106.)

The first machine that we know of, was constructed in the latter end of October, 1847, and consisted of a hand-wheel, which, when turned, caused the rollers (which carried the knives) to move upwards and downwards by eccentric motion, so that it is evident the stamps were not perforated *all round*. The whole thing occupied but little space, and considering the fact that the table on which the *first* trial was made quickly wore down under the constant pressure of the knives, it is no small wonder the machine was condemned. Nearly 700 sheets were allowed to Archer for this trial by the Post Office, but as it is said, he offered them the use of the machine as a test gratuitously, it is likely he had to pay for the stamps supplied, so that they are rare and valuable. The gauge runs about seven to the two centimetres, and the best description is "jagged cuts of varying length."

Only the penny value was used in all Archer's experiments, and it is not quite certain whether the above "jagged cuts" were caused by either spur-wheels (like those used by lawyers) or short knife-blades. The varying length probably was caused by the force and constancy of the pressure of the perforating implements.

Not discouraged, however, we find that in 1848 Archer again experimented with his machine, now improved by the introduction of lancet-pointed blades. In these, the points wore down quickly, and in addition the table again suffered, so that we have to record the inventor's second failure. The stamps perforated by this second trial are likewise scarce, but we believe a larger quantity was perforated in 1848 than in the preceding year. It might be added that this "second" machine worked much more rapidly. The incisions were far more regular and closer, so that the stamps thus treated form a second variety.

Has your friend Jones seen this paper? If not, 

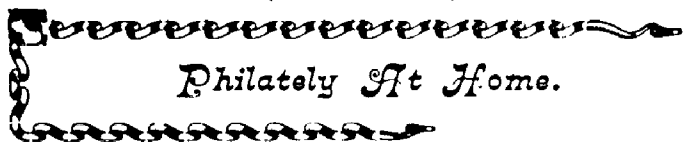
In 1849, like Robert Bruce's spider, Archer "tried again," and this time produced a machine which contained "needles," and which were still operated by hand-power. A lever was set in motion and the punch containing needles raised and depressed in correspondence with the motion of sheet or sheets to be perforated. But in this case a sequence of perforated holes, oval shaped, was guaranteed and the stamps experimented on vary but little in appearance from the first Governmentally perforated labels. The latter did not appear till in 1854, so that dated letters will always be sufficient evidence for the genuineness of "third trial" specimens. Altogether, 4,000 sheets, equalling 960,000 labels, were supplied to Archer, and as their use extended from 1847 to 1853, they are all (the three varieties) scarce and difficult to procure. Many must have been spoilt and destroyed, and it is likely that a few were sold over the Post Office counters, but not a matter of certainty.

On the 23rd November, 1848, Royal Letters Patent were issued to Archer for his invention, and on the 23rd May, 1849, his specification was enrolled. The official number of the patent was 12,340, and according to the terms of the laws governing such documents, it would expire 23rd November, 1862.

Following up his third trial, Archer opened communication with the Lords of the Treasury, in the vain hope, as it ultimately turned out, that they would act more wisely and give his undoubtedly ingenious idea and machine their serious consideration. Like all bureaucracies, plenty of pen, ink and paper was wasted by both sides in correspondence, which eventually was issued as a blue book, under the heading of "Parliamentary Return, Archer H.M.'s Lords of the Treasury." All they offered was £200 as compensation or reward for his invention, and £400 as purchase money for the machine. No wonder, therefore, after nearly five years ceaseless toil, that the inventor refused, point-blank, such an offer. We find him presenting a memorial relative to his claim for consideration and reward to their Lordships, in May, 1850.

The story now turns into another direction altogether. Monsieur Hulet, of the Paris Mint, and designer of the first two issues of France, so far as their engraving and printing were concerned, had not long brought into use his method of electrotyping and producing surface-printed stamps. Considerable saving in labour and time was effected by this process, and we next observe that a new character, viz., Alfred Branston, engraver, now steps upon the scene. In conjunction with Archer, he printed a large quantity of the interesting labels known as "Prince Consort Essays." The dies were engraved by Branston, who produced an extremely fine portrait of the Prince Consort, Albert. This was done in order to save the two parties concerned from any possible prosecution for forgery. A quantity of the essays in black (they exist in five colours) were perforated by the third machine for use as specimens of the new mode of separation.

(To be continued).



Philately At Home.

OUR PHILATELIC POPULATION.

MR. HAROLD FREDERIC'S "Stamp Album" articles are now appearing fortnightly—not weekly, as in the *Million*—in *Pearson's Weekly*. In his first article in this new medium, Mr. Frederic estimates that there are from 500,000 to 600,000 stamp collectors in the United Kingdom. It would be interesting to know how he worked it out.

AN AID TO WATERMARK INSPECTION.

THE *Bazaar's* occasional "Philatelist's Supplements," are admirably justifying their publication by the many valuable hints and sound philatelic articles they contain. The second, published on April 8th, contains even a better variety of matter than did the first. An useful wrinkle for those who find a difficulty in deciphering watermarks is given by F.B.T. He writes: "Take a piece of fairly stout cardboard—about

10in. by 4in. is a convenient size, but the dimensions are not important—about 2in. from one end cut an opening slightly smaller than the average postage-stamp. Now hold the card between yourself and the light, and place the stamp to be examined directly over the hole; it can be easily retained in position by the thumb of the hand with which you are holding the card. By thus concentrating the light entirely upon the stamp, the watermark can be distinguished with greater ease. You can make the opening at either end, whichever brings it nearer to your best eye."

AN ODD WAY OF ARRANGING A COLLECTION.

THE Manchester citizen mentioned in this column a week or two back, who carries about his person an electric pick-pocket guard, and who invented an electric egg preserver, sends me (writes Mr. C. Arthur Pearson, in a recent issue of his *Weekly*) particulars of another of his novelties. It appears that he collects stamps, but instead of gumming them into an album, he has arranged them in a distinctly original fashion. He took a longitudinal box, fitted it with a small objective glass, an endless band bearing the stamps, a tiny lamp, and an electric motor. By pressing a button the endless band is made to revolve, pausing as each stamp—magnified to many times its size—appears in front of the glass. This fanciful notion might also be applied to the exhibition of coins, fossils, and collections of that description.

STOLEN!—A JOHANNESBURG COLLECTION.

MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, issue a circular giving a description of a collection stolen from Mr. T. W. Chaplin, of Johannesburg, Transvaal. The collection is valuable and it is anticipated that the same will be offered for sale in England or America. A reward of £50 is offered for the return of the Album intact, and a further £50 for the conviction of the thief. Among the stamps enumerated are Mauritius, 2d. blue, large filleted head; 2d. blue, 1848; Cape, 1d. blue error, perfect condition; 1d. red, 1864, cut diagonally for ½d., and postmarked Victoria West (on paper); Afghanistan, several of first issue; British Guiana, 1862, provisional, 2 cents, yellow, and 4 cents, blue; Transvaal, almost complete; Brazil, 100reis, blue and red, head reversed; Canada, ½d. rose, imperforate, unused. The collection is about 6,000 to 7,000 specimens, S. African stamps being particularly well represented. It is in a Stafford Smith & Co.'s Permanent Album, bound in Morocco, with brass lock.

English Stamps Used Abroad.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 118.)

- C.
Constantinople. ½d. rose-red, plates 11, 14.
1d. " " 90, 119, 121, 129, 134, 136, 138, 146, 150, 186.
2d. blue, plates 9, 12, 13, 14.
2d. lilac (1880).
2½d. lilac-rose and blue—all plates.
3d. carmine, plates 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 15, 16.
4d. rose, plates 1, 3, 4.
4d. orange, plates 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.
4d. vermilion, plate 15.
4d. sage, plates 15, 16.
4d. mouse-brown, plate 12 (crown).
6d. lilac, no letters, plate 3, 4, 5, 6 (emblems), 6, 8, 9 (spray).
6d. pale buff, plate 11.
6d. dark buff, plate 11.
6d. grey-green, plates 12, 16.
10d. pale brown.
1 sh. green, no letters, plates 2, 4 (emblems), 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13 (spray).
1 sh. salmon, plates 13 (spray), 13, 14 (crown).
2 sh. blue.
2/6 lilac on blue and white paper.
5 sh. rose, plates 1, 2 and 4 on blue and white paper.
1880-1883, ½d. slate, green and vermilion.
1d. lilac, 14 and 16 dots.

Send us his address and we will gladly post him a specimen copy.

- 2d. red.
 2½d. lilac.
 5d. green.
 1 sh. green.
 3d. carmine, plate 5.
 6d. dark buff, plate 11.
 1 sh. green, plates 2, 4 (emblems), 4, 5 (spray).
- C 28
 Montevideo.
- C 30
 Valparaiso.
- 1d. rose-red, plates 162, 178, 189, 197, 198, 209.
 1d. orange.
 3d. carmine, plates 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 17, 18.
 4d. orange, plates 12, 13, 14.
 4d. sage, plates 15, 16.
 6d. violet, plates 4, 5 (emblems).
 6d. violet, plates 8, 9.
 6d. light buff, plates 11, 12.
 6d. dark buff, plate 11.
 6d. grey-green, plates 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 (spray),
 17 (crown).
 9d. bistre, plate 4 (emblems and spray).
 10d. pale brown.
 1 sh. green, plates 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
 (spray).
 1 sh. salmon, plate 13 (spray).
 2 sh. blue.
 2 sh. red-brown.
 5 sh. rose, plate 1, 2.
- C 35
 Panama.
- 1½d. rose-red, plate 3.
 2d. rose (1880).
 2½d. lilac-rose, plate 1.
 3d. carmine, plates 4, 9, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20 (spray).
 4d. orange, plates 10, 13.
 4d. vermilion, plate 15.
 4d. sage, plate 16.
 4d. mouse-brown, plate 17 (crown).
 6d. violet, plates 3, 5, 6 (emblems), 8, 9 (spray).
 6d. light buff, plate 12.
 6d. grey-green, plates 14, 15, 16, 17.
 1 sh. green, plate 4 (emblems), 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
 11, 12, 13 (spray).
 1 sh. salmon, plate 13 (spray).
 2 sh. blue.
 5 sh. rose, plate 2.
- C 36
 Arica.
- 6d. lilac, plates 6, 9 (spray).
 6d. light buff, plate 11.
 6d. grey-green, plate 15.
 9d. bistre (spray).
 10d. pale brown.
 1 sh. green, plate 6.
 5 sh. rose, plate 1.

(To be continued.)

It has been decided to form an Exchange Society, which would solely occupy itself with English stamps used abroad. It will be arranged in such a way that every member will obtain "first pick" once—that is to say, the Secretary will not have first pick every month, but will forward the packet intact. A subscription of 10/- will be charged to defray clerical expenses, as a special clerk will have to be engaged for the purpose of keeping the accounts. Nine members are already enrolled. Anyone who wishes to join will please send his name to my office, 64, Cheapside, when he will receive printed rules, &c.

H. H.

To Postal Subscribers.



PLEASE find on this space a 2 cent Stamp of Belgium, presented gratis to postal subscribers only.

Under Bennett's Clock.

64, Cheapside, E.C.

WHEN I published a short list of the postmarks used abroad on English stamps in my Catalogue of English Adhesives, I was quite aware that I ventured on a field hitherto absolutely untouched by English philatelists. The famous reviewer of the *P.J.G.B.* let himself loose as follows:

"A list is also added of Colonial postmarks upon English stamps. To say that such a mark upon the stamp constitutes it as a separate issue of the particular country where it has been used, is nonsense. How can a British stamp with a Peru postmark be classed as a Peruvian one? It was issued by the British Government for the use of its own post established in the ports of that country for letters under its immediate care (per the British Consul), and the Peruvian Government had no part or lot in it. If the Postal Union was done away with to-day, there would be British stamps used in France for letters to this country if the Consuls collected and sent the letters to England. It is only by treaty that French stamps frank letters addressed to people in England."

Clearly, in the opinion of this wise reviewer, all those who follow my lead and give these stamps a special place in their Album are "lunatics," since he does me the honour to say that the mere idea of separating these issues from the ordinary English stamps is not a mistaken but a nonsensical one. Well, people without sense are lunatics.

That was barely ten months ago, but *tempora mutantur*. In looking through the March number of the *P.J.G.B.*, I find a list of these "nonsensical" objects by Mr. Hinton, and a revision of this list in the April number just to hand. Well, well, I never knew that our Salisbury contemporary would change its mind so completely in so short a time. I wonder whether the reviewer is still of the same opinion? But what does the German poet say: *Schnell fertig ist die Jugend mit dem Wort*.

Journalistic aptitude is not the *only* virtue which a philatelic writer should possess, but *some* knowledge of general philately should be infused into the above mentioned commodity in order to enable the wielder of the pen to understand philatelic literature before he pulls it to pieces.

I do not speak without experience of such things, for some five years ago, long before the *Philatelic Review of Reviews* existed, yea, even before the very existence of the *P.J.G.B.*, I had the honour to conduct a very similar thing in the *I.B.Z.* I had then occasion to mention, when reviewing the *P.J.G.B.*, that it might contain some philately, in addition to printer's ink. These remarks were reported to Mr. Brown by a man who has shown to great disadvantage in a law court of South Germany, and a rather lengthy correspondence ensued with Mr. Brown, when I explained to him, where, in my humble opinion, the shortcoming of the *P.J.G.B.* came in. The direct result of this correspondence was the birth of the *Review of Reviews*.

These things may not interest our readers, but I am compelled to give this explanation because "an honourable member of the P.P.A." has the refreshing impudence to state that I had no connection with philately previous to my starting business in December, 1892. I wonder how many dealers now established could trace their first philatelic ventures farther back than 1872, when I first began to collect my various scrapbooks and put my stamps in a proper album. Since, I have never ceased collecting.

THE ENGLISH ALBUM A SUCCESS.

"The best" seems to be about good enough for "S.C.F." readers. At the moment of writing, every copy of the first batch of our English Album (10/6 style) is sold, and a number of orders are awaiting execution. We must once more ask our patrons to be patient and promise them it shall not occur again.

HARRY HILCKES.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

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Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, APRIL 20, 1895.

. . . Between Ourselves . . .

A SPECIAL COMMITTEE—we had almost written a Royal Commission—has been appointed to enquire

A "Gumpap" into the gumpap question. For this good Enquiry. move the London Society is responsible,

the committee being, as a matter of fact, a sub-committee of that body. A meeting has been convened for an early date, and at that meeting the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY will be represented. We are hoping great things of this Gumpap Committee.

* * *

THE Philatelic Protection Association has found what it sorely needed—a champion. And that

The P.P.A.'s champion is Mr. William Brown, editor, or at any rate proprietor, of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, and—Committee Member of

the Association! The *P.J.G.B.*, in its somewhat tardy desire to remove the nasty taste in the mouth created by the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY's exposure of the P.P.A., the *P.J.G.B.*, in its admiration of the work of Mr. William Brown and his colleagues, holds forth at great length, and with delicious ambiguity, upon the past and present performances of the P.P.A. "It (the P.P.A.) has laboured quietly; it has not employed the puff preliminary, or the puff, indeed, of any kind; but it has certainly done good work." When one has read this sentence of the *P.J.G.B.*'s article one has read the whole screed. The rest is all repetition of this one statement that the P.P.A. has done good work and has done it quietly. So quietly does this wonderful Association do its "good work" now-a-days that not the faintest echo reaches the outside world. But still the good work is being done! Mr. William Brown has said it, and Mr. William Brown, as a Committee Member of the Association, of course ought to know. The unfortunate thing is that Mr. William Brown sees no virtue in dry detail. He neglects to give us chapter and verse for any one of his fair statements. "The P.P.A. has done good work and is doing good work," he says again and again with a tiresome disregard of tautology. But what is the good work and who is gaining by it? These are trifles that Mr. Brown neglects to explain, although he promises to be more explicit on some future occasion. We await the postponed thunderbolt with interest, not because we expect to see any single count in our now celebrated "Indictment" rebutted, but because this promised defence of the P.P.A. is like to prove an entertaining imaginative effort. A disinterested review of the P.P.A.'s "work" in, say, the *London Philatelist*, we should receive seriously and with courteous consideration;

but William Brown on William Brown and Colleagues is quite too droll for anything.

And when (if ever) Mr. William Brown essays to give actual dates and details of the P.P.A.'s recent "work," perhaps he will be good enough to include particulars of the Association's action (if any) in the matter of the Nyassaland swindle, and also the action (IF ANY) of Mr. William Brown (as Committee Member) in the same connection.

* * *

OPINIONS are divided on the mended-stamp question. We

feared they would be. Yet we cannot quite "Composite" see the necessity for this. Regarded on a broad basis of equity and fair dealing, a

Stamps. mended stamp is a fake, because it is not that which it appears to be. Mark the stamp "mended,"

and you remove the false pretence; the stamp then is no longer a fake. But there are mended stamps and mended

stamps. One may join together two portions of a stamp, or one may supply a missing portion by means of another stamp

of similar design and colour. Thus we have two distinct classes of mended stamps, one of which would more properly

be called "composite" stamps. From a collector's point of view, two halves of a stamp are certainly better than no

stamp at all. This is mere every-day common sense. And the possessor of the two halves may very fairly be allowed to

join those two halves together, stick the rehabilitated stamp in his album, and tell his friends as many lies about it as his

conscience will permit. That is entirely his business. But when he wishes to sell—that is where the question of fake

comes in. If he sells his cunningly-joined halves as one genuine whole, we contend that he is selling a faked stamp;

but we do not dispute his right to sell a mended stamp as a mended stamp. We are speaking now only of such "mended

stamps" as may be properly so called, not of that other class which we prefer to style "composite" stamps. A mended

stamp, so long as it remains in the collector's album, is his absolute property, and he can call it whatsoever he pleases;

but if it is to be sold it must be sold as a mended stamp.

Similarly with a "composite" stamp. The art of stamp-mending has been brought to such a pitch of excellence that

little bits of different stamps may be blended, as it were, into one harmonious whole, and so skilfully, that the eye of an

expert is sometimes needed to detect the "joins." To sell such a stamp as a perfect stamp is obviously dishonest, as

"Fideliter" (another letter from whom we are able to give in this issue) has so clearly pointed out. This correspondent

alone has seen the really essential point—that a mended stamp or a composite stamp should be described "as such"

when offered for sale.

* * *

THE *D.B.Z.*, the Premier Philatelic Journal in Germany, thinks that it is unwise to publish details of

Photographs Forgeries, as of course the forgers are thus informed of their shortcomings, and can

rectify their mistakes. There is a great deal of truth in this, but in our opinion, and we can truthfully say

we have studied this question for a long time past, we find that as soon as the details of a forgery are known, everyone

is put upon his guard. The following will illustrate our meaning. We published in our No. 5, an enlarged reproduction

of a forgery of the 10c. (lithograph) unpaid letter Stamp of France, which was offered to our publishers by the dozen.

We lent the block to the *V.K.B.* of Frankfort, who published our warning in their January number. A few days after this

had appeared, the Secretary of the Mulhouse Society received 21 of these stamps from Mr. W—, of Lyons,

the party who first offered these stamps to our publishers. He remembered having seen our blocks in the *V.K.B.*

compared his 21 stamps, and found them to be bad. A London dealer, on the Monday after our warning appeared,

had a dozen of these stamps offered (which, he admitted, he did not even suspect) and would have purchased the lot had

not one of our readers been in his shop and showed him a copy of No. 5, which he had received that morning. (Of

course no sale resulted, but one more subscriber was added to our list. On the whole we must disagree with our esteemed

contemporary in Germany on this point. Even if a certain amount of risk is incurred, we think the good that results more than out-balances any possible evil.

* * *

IN vain have we searched through the April number of the *P. J. G. B.* for the promised explanation of Mr. Brown. We have had various readers asking us to obtain the money back which they invested in this fictitious issue, and we confess we are surprised at Mr. Brown's persistent silence. When a similar case happened sometime ago with an equally fictitious issue of Bolivia, the contracting firms, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and Theodor Buhl & Co., at once refunded all moneys paid to them. This we certainly thought Mr. W. Brown would also do. We take the credit of having first revealed the bogus nature of this issue, and we mean to see that all those who were induced to believe in these labels receive their money back.

Will all readers therefore who have any quantity of these stamps on hand communicate with our publishers, giving all details as to where and when they obtained them.

* * *

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING & Co. have kindly sent for our inspection a letter addressed to a Parisian dealer, bearing 5 Abyssinian stamps on the **Abyssinia Puzzle.** verse (value 1 franc), and a 25c. stamp of Obock on the reverse. It is postmarked "Harrar" 29th Jan., '95. We further read the following in the Italian paper *Fanfulla*:—

On the 25th Jan., there arrived at Harrar, via Obock, a French Mission conducted by M. Chefrenx, an engineer. This expedition included a large number of carrier camels, bearing guns, patrons, etc.; it also brought some 6,000 silver dollars (5 Francs) with the effigy of the "Emperor" Menelik. It is further stated that a French Mission of Lazarists, which has charge of the Postal service between Harrar and Obock, takes a great interest in this Chefrenx mission. If we now compare the dates of arrival of this mission with the date of the above mentioned letter, the coincidence becomes striking. If we further consider that although the letter was marked "Registered," the "R" signifying that a Registration was effected was *not* added in Harrar, but in Obock, since it is impressed with the same ink as the Obock obliteration mark, the question arises:

Would it not be possible to prepare a number of plain envelopes with some *postmarked* Abyssinian Stamps, then add the Obock 25c., which carries the letter from Obock to France? We say, yes, and moreover, we believe this has been done with the envelopes which are now produced as evidence of the postal character of these labels. Before we accept these stamps as a real postal issue, we must have full and complete proof of their genuineness. It is not sufficient to say that they serve for some local purpose. A postage stamp can only be considered as such if it represents a genuine revenue derived from a carrier service of a Government department. If they do not come up to this standard, we maintain they are worth little more than, say, Norwegian locals.

The Minor Varieties of the Stamps of the United States.

(From the *Post Office*.)

(Continued from page 110).



The 6c. of 1882, re-engraved, has horizontal lines equally coarse and close together both within and without the oval; while the vertical lines of the outer frame, although slightly farther apart, are equally coarse, so that the whole stamp appears to be of one shade throughout.

Ten Cent 1872 and 1882.

The 10c. of 1872 is quite different in its general appearance from the latter re-engraved specimen. The most noticeable feature is found in the number of vertical lines between the left of the oval and the edge of the shield.



There are six very fine lines in the 10c. of 1872, counting from the oval and not counting the line of the shield. The first of these lines touches the oval.

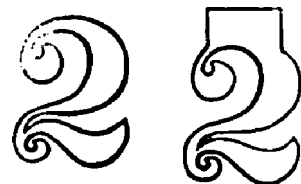


There are only four vertical lines in the same portion of the 10c. of 1882, re-engraved. They are much coarser than in the 10c. of 1872, and the line at the right does not touch the oval.

The 10c. re-engraved, like the 6c. is engraved with lines of almost equal width throughout, so that the shade is about the same in all parts of the stamp.

Two Cent of 1890, Crowned.

The variation from the ordinary stamp of the issue of 1890 consists in the presence of a crown or cap upon the top of one or both of the two's.



There are three types:—

- a. Left two crowned.
- b. Right two crowned.
- c. Both two's crowned.

This variety was first noticed in the summer of 1893, but has been found upon envelopes mailed as early as October, 1892.

Special Delivery Stamps.

The Special Delivery Stamp of 1885 was intended to be used only on letters that were sent to the larger places throughout the country, which on account of their size or importance were designated as Special Delivery Offices, and immediate delivery of mail for the fee of ten cents represented by this stamp, allowed. Hence the inscription on the stamp which is in six straight lines, reads:—

SECURES
IMMEDIATE
DELIVERY
AT A SPECIAL
DELIVERY
OFFICE.

The system of special delivery was so successful and popular that in 1888 it was extended to all post-offices throughout the country and the inscription changed to five lines (four straight and the last one curved), reading:

SECURES
IMMEDIATE
DELIVERY
AT ANY
POST OFFICE.

Post Office Seal Stamps.

The variety of seal stamps catalogued as P. Obitum, differs from others, in having the groundwork of the stamp, apparently behind the lettering, covered with repetitions of the words *POST OBITUM* in minute letters.

U.S. Revenue Stamps—Varieties of Paper.

The paper known as "old" is the thin, hard paper on which the early issues of revenues were printed.

Just before the change was made to the second issue, a paper, having in it fibres of silk such as may be seen in any United States paper money, was adopted, and a few of the first issue of revenues printed upon it and used. The stamps of the first issue on this paper are, on account of the short time they were used, much scarcer than their present catalogue prices indicate.

Another variety of paper is that known as watermarked. Large double-lined letters, U. S. I. R., are watermarked throughout the sheet, being so placed in relation to each other that they read consecutively both horizontally and vertically. The height of the letters is about the width of the smaller sizes of revenue stamps.

Varieties of Perforation.

Part perforations are the only ones requiring mention. These are stamps perforated on two opposite sides only. The idea seems to have been to perforate the stamps in such a way that they would hold together firmly and yet could be easily separated by a single clip of the scissors.

Hence, we find the stamps from one to 20c. perforated either horizontally or vertically, the distance remaining to be cut in either case being no more than scissors would easily cover. The stamps from 25c. upwards, however, being so long that a straight cut was difficult, were always perforated vertically, so that their width was all that remained to be cut by the scissors.

Confederate States—Ten Cents with Outer Line.



The plate from which this stamp was printed was marked off with lines, as shown in our cut, crossing each other at right angles. These are apparently guide lines for the proper placing of the die in position to make the impression on the plate from which the printing was done. Because of this all the lines are seldom found around one stamp.

Another Recent Discovery.



OLD.



NEW.

The above enlarged drawing (says *Mekel's Weekly*) will illustrate the principal difference between the old 12c. of 1870 and the newly discovered variety which is stated by various authorities to have been issued from 1873 to 1882.

Issue of 1870, without grill, 12 cents, dark lilac.

Issue of 1873, the work of the Continental Bank Note Co., 12 cents, dark purple.

These two are simply varieties of colour, and both apply to the old type of the 12c., the numerals of which are illustrated in the first cut above.

To a collector of shades, there are about eight distinct shadings of this stamp, from an ordinary dark lilac to a dark purple, and since the new variety has been discovered we have had our stock examined, and we have been able to match the eight principal shades of the first type in the second one; and besides these, we find a distinctly new shade, which may be described as a rich purple. It is a rich dark colour and is somewhat of a reddish cast. This particular shade seems to be distinctly characteristic of the new variety and is much scarcer than any of the others.

The second variety is also found on the old hard paper, which is a familiar characteristic of the ordinary 12c., and this has led some philatelists to believe that the origin of this new variety was as early as 1873, while those that have ascribed its date to the date of the other re-engraved stamps and placed it at 1883, are those that were first inclined to describe the new variety in the dark purple colour only. It

may prove that both theories are in some degree correct; that the second type occurred in the old shades as early as 1873 or 1875 and that the dark purple colour is a peculiarity of the 1882 series, when the stamps were re-engraved.

THE END.

[We have in hand a further article dealing with the differences in the Keay and Plympton dies of the U.S. envelopes; but for the sake of variety we hold this over until after the completion of a most exhaustive article on the Secret Marks of the Swiss Stamps, (profusely illustrated), which has been in our possession for many months past, and which will commence in our next issue. The article originally appeared some years ago in a German contemporary, but the author, Freiherr von Girsewaldt has kindly revised it and brought it up to date for the benefit of our readers.—Eds.]

Philately Abroad.

NOTHING LIKE RED TAPE.

A PHILATELIST in Austria had occasion to apply to one of the Government Departments, for information duly enclosing a stamp for reply. The reply was sent to him in a "Service" envelope. Three years later he received the following official document:—

Nov. 21st, 1894.

The penny stamp enclosed in your letter of 15/4/91, is herewith returned to you.

Yours, etc.

P.S.—The above mentioned stamp has been used to pay the postage of this letter.

Will this piece of Official stupidity ever be surpassed? We doubt it.

THE FEZ-SEFRO SWINDLE.

It has been a matter of common knowledge for a long time past that the Fez-Sefro "Courier" stamps were entirely bogus. Only the confession of the promoter of the swindle was needed to clinch the matter, and now even this is forthcoming. The creator of the Fez-Sefro rubbish is a young man employed in a German mercantile house in Morocco. He freely confesses that the "Fez-Sefro mail service" is a myth, and that the issue was merely a speculation of his own. "Speculation," it seems to us, is not the right word. What a pity that the long arm of the law is not long enough to reach this complacent scoundrel.

"GOOD FOR THE COLLECTORS," INDEED!

WHEN will our journalists and "littery gents" free their minds of the stupid notion that the stamp collector is overjoyed to hear of a new issue of stamps or of alterations in existing issues. The *Johannesburg Star*, of March 16th, prints the following under the heading, "Good for the Collectors."

MARITZBURG, Friday (Special).—The supply of halfpenny stamps has run out, and sixpenny stamps, having "one halfpenny" printed on the face, are being issued as substitutes. Stamp collectors are making a great run on them.

PHILATELY v. FILOUTELY, or MORE GUMPAPS.

Egypt of all countries has signified her intention to enter the ranks of the gumpap-issuers. The temptation offered by an English dealer was too great. This is what we heard—The Carnival which takes place once a year in Cairo has been a failure and the committee have hit upon the not altogether new plan, to induce the Government to issue a special series of stamps for a short time, when the remainders will be sold to dealers and the whole issue declared to be obsolete! It is estimated that a profit of £10,000 would be easily made by selling these remainders at a good premium; and as a matter of fact, it is said that an English dealer has already offered to purchase half of whatever quantity would be printed, at 1/- per stamp. The latter would only consist of values from 1 to 10 millèmes (1 m. = 1/100).

A very pretty arrangement. The question is, will the philatelic public submit to supply the Egyptian Committee of Fools with the needful to perform their antics? We doubt it. Already such speculation as the Portuguese Dom Henry issue, San Marino, &c., have fallen flat, and we sincerely hope that those concerned in the swindle have lost money by it. We have seen some of the new Egyptian stamps, but

If you don't file your "Fortnightlies," pass this number on to a friend;—

are as yet unable to say whether these are identical with those mentioned above. We are almost afraid they are. Therefore don't buy any new issue of Egypt till more is known about them.

BISMARCK CARDS.

It could hardly be expected that the 80th birthday of Germany's greatest statesman should not be exploited by the less scrupulous dealers in philatelic wares. Countless varieties of postcards and envelopes have been circulated in Germany, some even used. But every one is of private origin and in our opinion, that is from a philatelic point of view, so much good stationery spoilt. One dealer posted on the 1st April several plain envelopes addressed to himself and on receipt added a portrait of Bismarck to the front part and asked 1/6 each. These Bismarck cards are on quite as low a level as the Carnot, Toulon, etc., swindle.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA COMPANY.

At a meeting held on the 27th March, this Company decided to relinquish their sovereignty over the tract of land named after them in favour of the British Government. The old issues of the Company are therefore doomed and will be replaced by a proper Government issue ere long.

DOES BRUSSELS BELONG TO THE SEEBECK STATES?

This heading was suggested by the following news from the Belgian capital:—It is stated that by accident a large number of 5 franc stamps was overlooked, and only recently discovered. For the last 4 years it had been difficult to obtain this stamp at most offices. "Sold out" was the stereotyped answer. It now appears that these stamps are to be sold without guarantee on part of the Government as regards condition, &c. The authorities further decline to state whether the plates will be destroyed. All this seems to point to the fact that, after the most successful launch of the late Congo series, the Government adopt the Oliver Twist policy and ask for more. It is stated that 15/- each has been offered for these 5 franc stamps. Speculators had therefore better beware before they jump too hastily at the tempting bait. After all is said and done, the stamp is hardly worth 7/6, unused or used!

THE NEW PORTUGAL SERIES—GUMPAPS.

Some poor old saint has had a birthday; else why is this new series inflicted on a too patient philatelic public? Here are some details: 14 values will be issued, 8,600,000 stamps altogether, face value about £40,000. And all this money has to come from the collector.

WHAT OUR FRIENDS ABROAD SAY:

The *I.B.Z.* reviews the *S.C.F.* (No. 9), as follows:—This smart paper, in spite of strenuous competition has gained the favour of philatelists in England and abroad in no time,—not however, without inciting the hatred of its contemporaries. The results the *S.C.F.* has attained in the short period of its existence deserve every praise and surpass by far those of papers of much greater age. May it continue as hitherto, notwithstanding the hissing of its rivals.

It is gratifying to see one's honest efforts appreciated now and then. Thanks are mainly due to our readers, who help us everywhere; it is owing chiefly to these personal introductions that we can to-day state that our paid up subscription list is at the present moment only exceeded by one other paper in England; we mean the *Monthly Journal*. This is not idle talk, but an absolute fact. It would astonish our readers to hear how very small are the circulations of some of our contemporaries.

NEWFOUNDLAND—A CANADIAN PROVINCE.

Owing no doubt to financial troubles it is contemplated by Sir Wm. Whiteway, the Prime Minister of Newfoundland to merge the colony into the postal system of Canada. The Prime Minister of Canada, Sir Mackenzie Bowell, has signified his intention to endorse Sir W. Whiteway's proposals.

CONGO—GUMPAPS.

It is stated that of the last series of this country, the 5c. and 10c. (in greenish-blue and red-brown respectively) not a single specimen ever reached the Congo State, but that only copies of the second edition in reversed colour were sent out. If that is true, and it seems so, these stamps also are worthless gumpaps.

City of London Philatelic Club.

EXCHANGE PACKET.

THE February packet is still out, having been detained by one member for eight days. In common fairness we shall be compelled in future to impose a fine unless members mend their ways.

Sheets for May packet should reach the Secretary not later than the 26th inst. Some members with commendable promptness have already begun sending in their sheets. It would be as well if other members did likewise.

The Librarian acknowledges with thanks the receipt of *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Monthly Journal*, *The Stamp News* (Feb. & March), *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, A. Smith & Son's *Monthly Circular* and *The Philatelic Advertiser*.

From France: *L'Annuaire Timbrologique* and *Le Timbrophile Poitevin*.

From the United States: *The American Journal of Philately*, *The Post Office*, *The American Philatelic Magazine* and *The Evergreen State Philatelist*.

Il Francobollo *Revista Mensile di Filatelia* and *Caracas Filatelico* from M. Camaschella.

Auction Catalogues from Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, The London Philatelic Co., and Mr. W. Ridout.

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of the members at our meetings every Thursday, at Cossavella's, 121, Cheapside, E.C. No meeting on March 28th.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP,

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

.. Our Forum. ..

* * * Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

A GUMPAP COMMITTEE APPOINTED.

DEAR SIRS,—At a meeting of the Philatelic Society, London, held on the 22nd March, 1895, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—“Resolved—That this Society is of opinion that the great increase in the production of speculative stamps for sale to collectors threatens to have a very serious effect on the collection of genuine postal issues throughout the world, and that a Committee be appointed to consider the best means to be adopted to put a stop to the scandal.”

I am directed by the Committee appointed in pursuance of such resolution to request your co-operation and support in connection with the above mentioned object.

It is proposed to hold a special meeting at the Society's rooms, as above, on Monday, the 6th May next, at 7.30 p.m., to consider and discuss the whole subject, and the Committee would be glad to be favoured with your presence at such meeting, if you could conveniently arrange to come.

I am, yours truly, HERBERT R. OLDFIELD,

Hon. Sec. to the Committee.

Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C., 6th April, 1895.

IS A MENDED STAMP A FAKE?

DEAR SIR,—Will you permit me to reply shortly to the letters of "Wisherwell" and "Stampology" in your last issue.

I decidedly agree with "S." that if he wishes he is in every way justified in keeping such a stamp as he describes in his

He will be the gainer and you will have lost nothing.

own collection, and the stamp itself for all practical purposes is not a "fake;" but if on obtaining a perfect specimen he sells the damaged one without letting its condition be known, I then say equally decidedly that he is acting dishonestly. and that the stamp *under these circumstances is a fake.* And the reason is obvious. It would be of little use for the vendor to describe the stamp as perfect if it were lying in two pieces, and therefore it is the mend as much as the mender that deceives the purchaser, and it is the mend that unfairly gives the stamp the appearance of being better than it really is, and surely this last is the true meaning of the word "fake."

I hope "W." and "S." will be able to agree with me on this point; if not we can at least agree to differ.

FIDELITER.

PHILATELY AND PAPER-MAKING.

DEAR SIR,—May I suggest that a few explanations upon the different makes of paper would no doubt be interesting to a great many collectors who are not wholly acquainted with all of them. The majority of your subscribers I think would be considerably enlightened. Yours sincerely,

Clapham. F.P.

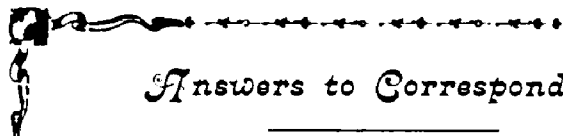
[Such an article is now in preparation—Eds.]

NOT FORGERIES, BUT FACSIMILES.

DEAR SIRS,—A friend of mine has exhibited in his window a set of the U.S.A. newspaper stamps, 1875 issue, marked "Facsimile" on each. On seeing the letter from your correspondent H.J.T., and your remarks thereon, I went and spoke to him about them. He wants to know if there is any clause in the Act which would render him liable to an action for selling them, as he does not look upon them as being forgeries, it being plainly stated on them that they are not the real stamps, but only facsimiles. And the real stamps being practically unobtainable, he did not see why he should not sell them.

F.G.W.

[On legal grounds there is nothing to prevent the sale of these facsimiles; but, morally, it is as bad to sell a forgery so marked as to retail one that bears no indication of its true character. There are young collectors who will buy these things so long as they are offered for sale. There are even very young collectors who do not understand the meaning of the word "facsimile."—Eds.]



Answers to Correspondents.

. We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

T.H. (Portugal).—(a). Your Samoas are all bad. (b). It sometimes happened in the early days of perforating machines that some stamps were turned out shorter than others; to say that this constitutes a separate variety is hardly correct. They are curious, no doubt, but of no particular variety. (c). Although the English language is said to be the most prolific one among European languages, it is certainly a fact that many technical expressions cannot aptly be given in English. One of these expressions is tête-bêche, which simply means that when constructing the plate, one stamp was inserted *reversed*. (d). The Gothic surcharge on most Mexican stamps enhances their value in many cases, but space forbids to go into details. (e). There is no such stamp as a blue 300 reis Portugal. Such specimens are simply faded copies of the 1871 issue 300 reis mauve. The latter colour, consisting of blue and red, if exposed to a strong sunlight, will lose its red ingredient; the 80r. brown is a chemical changling.

L.B. (Dartmouth)—Your Brazilian would be of no value except to a fiscal collector, and to him it would be worth only a few pence.

S.S.B. (Wimbledon).—The plate numbers of the penny red English are to be found engraved within the scroll-work at left and right of the stamps. Eritrea is an Italian dependency in Africa.

J.W.M. (Seedley).—(a & b) — All Grenada stamps with Queen's head to left, are printed *tête bêche* in equal numbers on sheet, hence half the number issued must necessarily be with inverted watermark. (c). The Canadian stamp is on ordinary wove paper. (d). Australian stamps with inverted watermarks are by no means rare: there seems to have been a general carelessness among the workmen as regards position of watermark. (e). We cannot reply to this query (see note at foot of this column). Stamps returned 6/4/95.

F.J.W. (Bath).—(a.) You are quite right, the printer was not over-careful in setting up the watermark blocks in our answer to John C. N., Manchester, on page 111. We append fresh illustrations which we trust will be clearer. (b). It is



hopeless to take any notice of the varieties which exist in the four flower watermark; not only does it exist inverted, and inverted and reversed, but each of the four different flowers exist misplaced, owing to the fact that these flowers were made of small wire bits which were separately sewn on the frame. As this was done by hand, many mistakes occur. (c.) Your letter under this heading has been published in another column.

—May we request all readers not to ask us to price stamps for them. This is information which can easily be obtained through any Catalogue and although we always like to oblige, we cannot possibly afford the time taken up by the reply of such queries.

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING MAY 4th.

All News for this column must reach the office first post on Wednesday previous to date of publication.

Auction Sales.

April 23rd.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co.'s 68th Sale.

April 26.—W. Ridout, at the Café Monico, Piccadilly Circus, at 6 p.m. I.P.U.

May 3.—Arbitration room, Chancery Lane, 7 p.m.

Tapling Collection.

The following countries are now on view in the King's Library, British Museum: British Guiana (last part), British Honduras, Jamaica, Saint Vincent, Saint Lucia, Falklands.

City of London Club.

Weekly Meetings at 121, Cheapside, Cossavella's Restaurant, every Thursday, at 7.30 p.m.

London Philatelic Society.

Every alternate Friday at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

London Philatelic Exchange.

April 23—121, Cheapside, E.C., Cossavella's Restaurant.

BACK NUMBERS.

We have still Complete Sets left in Stock at the uniform rate of 1½d. each, post free, but as we are running short of No. 3 we have raised the price to 3d. per copy for that number.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.—Pages of Two Columns.

For One Insertion—	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Page ..	5 0 0	Whole Page ..	4 0 0
Half Page ..	2 15 0	Half Page ..	2 5 0
Quarter Page ..	1 10 0	Quarter Page ..	1 5 0
One-Eighth Page ..	0 15 0	One-Eighth Page ..	0 12 6

Pages of Three Columns.

For One Insertion—	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Column ..	1 15 0	Whole Column ..	1 8 0
Half Column ..	0 18 0	Half Column ..	0 15 0
Quarter Column ..	0 10 0	Quarter Column ..	0 8 6
One Inch ..	0 5 0	One Inch ..	0 3 6

TERMS:—Strictly Cash with Order.

Printed for the Proprietors, HARRY HILCKES & CO., LIMITED, by MESSRS PARDY & SON, Philatelic Printers, 8, The Triangle, Bournemouth, and Published at 64, Cheapside, London.

ONE PENNY
POSTAGE
CARE OF GOOD HOPE

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY.
AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1895.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

Class a—Superb condition, if unused with gum, (mint state), if used, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

Continued from page 16.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
<i>Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co.'s Sale, April 3rd, 1895.</i>				
a	Antigua, 2½d. brown, wmk. C.C., used pair ..	2	5	0
a	Barbados, 5 - ochre, unused pair ..	0	17	0
a	Bolivia, eagle, 5c. violet, 2 shades, pen cancelled, together ..	1	3	0
a	eagle, 50c. blue, pen cancelled ..	2	10	0
b	ditto 100c. green, unused, no gum, 2 shades, together ..	1	4	0
a	9 stars, 500c. black, unused ..	1	14	0
b	11 stars, 500c. black, unused, no gum ..	3	12	6
a	British Guiana, (1862), 1c. black on rose, entire unused sheet of 24 types, but not initialled by postmaster ..	38	0	0
a	British N. Borneo, error, 1c. rose, surrounded by eight 4c. rose, unused ..	0	19	0
c	Canada, 7½d. green ..	1	1	0
c	½d. rose, perforated, a few perf. cut ..	0	14	0
a	Ceylon, 1r. 12c. on 2r. 50c. in words, vertical strip of 6 with sheet margin, unused ..	1	3	0
a	ditto, surcharge in figures, strip of 3 unused ..	0	18	0
b	Dominica, 1/- lake, "Revenue," used postally on origl. ..	1	0	0
c	Fiji, 12c. on 6d., Roman V.R. pen-cancelled ..	0	11	0
a	Great Britain, £1, on bleute, anchor wmk. (1884), 1 - green, block of 6, unused ..	2	8	0
a	6d. lilac, plate 5, wmk. emblems, unused, pane of 20 with margins ..	13	10	0
a	ditto, block of 4 unused ..	2	17	6
c	Hanover, 10gr. green, large margins and fine, but slightly damaged ..	2	0	0
c	Another copy, small margins ..	1	14	0
c	India, long provisional "Service," Sa. lilac and green, unused, but slightly mended ..	9	10	0
a	ditto, ditto, 4a., unused ..	5	10	0
a	Another copy, (4a.) used ..	4	10	0
a	ditto, shorter type, 2a., black surcharge, unused ..	4	15	0
a	6a. lilac and green, unused pair ..	1	4	0
c	Labuan, 6c. on 16c. red and blue ..	5	5	0
b	Mauritius, small fillet, 2d. ..	0	14	0
b	Greek border, 2d. blue ..	1	2	0
a	Britannia, (4d.) green, unsurcharged ..	0	12	0
b	Natal, 1st issue, 1/- buff, 2 copies together on original ..	10	0	0
b	ditto 6d. green, on piece of original ..	1	18	0
c	Another copy, not so fine and pin-holed ..	0	12	0
a	Nevis, 4d. orange, engraved ..	1	3	0
b	6d. first issue on greyish, unused, but no gum ..	2	12	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Newfoundland, ¼d. carmine- vermilion, unused, good margins ..	24	10	0
b	6½d. ditto unused, but no gum ..	10	10	0
b	6d. orange- vermilion, unused, no gum ..	11	10	0
b	Another copy, used and cut close ..	1	16	0
c	2d. orange- vermilion, unused, cut into at right side ..	1	15	0
c	New South Wales, Sydney View, 3d. 2 specimens on original ..	0	17	0
a	Another, fine but small margins ..	1	6	0
b	ditto 2d. plate 1, crossed diagonal lines ..	1	16	0
b	ditto ditto No. 19 on plate ..	1	5	0
c	Nova Scotia, 1d. unused but clipped at bottom ..	1	0	0
b	6d., margins small, but fine ..	1	3	0
b	Perak, 2c. vertical on 4c. rose, unused ..	2	4	0
c	Portugal, 1st. issue, 100 reis damaged and mounted ..	0	10	0
a	St. Vincent, 5 - claret, C.A. wmk., unused block of four ..	1	7	0
c	Saxony, 3 pf., rose ..	3	0	0
One a)	South Australia, 1st. issue, 1d. green, imperf. pair ..	2	2	0
b	Spain, (1851) 2 ris, red, pair ..	45	0	0
b	(1852) 2 ris, red, pair ..	17	0	0
c	Tasmania, 1d. carmine, star wmk., strip of 4 ..	1	9	0
a	Tobago, ¼d. on 6d. orange ..	1	12	0
a	Transvaal, 1d. red on blue, imperf., error Transvaal ..	3	10	0
a	United States, Columbus, \$2, pair, on piece of original ..	1	1	0
a	ditto, \$4 ..	1	1	0
a	Victoria, emblems, star wmk., 1d. green, imperf. pair ..	1	0	0
a	ditto, laid paper, ¼d. imperf. on piece of original ..	0	13	0
a	The "Too late" on piece of original ..	1	9	0
b	Another copy ..	0	13	0
a	Enthroned, 1d. green, unused ..	0	10	0
<i>The London Philatelic Company's Sale, April 8, 1895.</i>				
a	Brazil, (1890), 100 reis, red and blue, centre inverted on entire ..	0	12	0
b	British Columbia, 5c. rose, imperf. and unused, small margins ..	5	0	0
c	10c. blue and pink, perf. 12½ ..	1	10	0
a	Canada, 7½ green ..	2	15	0
a	Ceylon, 2 - blue, imperf. ..	4	4	0
b	5c. on 24c. purple brown, postally used ..	1	4	0
a	Another, penmarked ..	0	13	0
b	ditto ditto ..	0	14	0
a	1r. 12c. on 2r. 50c., (figures), blocks of 8 and 5 unused ..	2	0	0
a	ditto ditto, two used specimens on entire ..	0	9	0
a	5c. on 15c. olive (words) block of 110 unused ..	0	10	0
a	4c. rose, unused, block of 50 ..	1	0	0
b	Fiji, Gothic V.R., 12c. on 6d. rose ..	1	1	0
a	Great Britain, 2/- brown ..	2	4	0
b	1d. strip of 4 rouletted, on part of original ..	1	5	0
a	6d. grey-green, plate 17, wmk. spray, block of 4, unused ..	1	12	0
b	1d. plate 146, horizontal pair, imperf. ..	4	4	0
b	ditto, plate 191, vertical, ditto ditto ..	1	12	0
a	£3 violet, wmk. orbs, 3 specimens ..	1	1	0
b	Three more ..	0	19	0
c	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. superb specimen, very slightly mended ..	6	10	0
b	Modena, 1st issue, error, 5c. black on white ..	0	8	0
b	Montserrat, ¼d. blue, crown C.A. wmk. ..	3	0	0
c	Another, unused ..	0	18	0
b	New Zealand, 1d. red, imperf., unused, wmk. NZ. ..	0	13	0
b	1/- green, rouletted, wmk. Star ..	0	12	0

(To be continued).

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Doings of Societies.

NORTHAMPTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
ROCHDALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.
SCARBOROUGH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

No reports to hand on going to press.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE 45th meeting of the above Society was held on Tuesday, April 9th, at the house of Dr. Murray, the President, who occupied the chair. Owing to influenza having laid up a considerable number of the members, there was no meeting in March. After the confirmation of the minutes, Rev. H. Cummings, Vice-President, gave a most interesting and instructive paper on the subject of "Paper Manufacture and Watermarks," illustrating his remarks by specimens. Particularly interesting was the very fine collection of water-marked sheets which he submitted, consisting, as they did, of portraits of celebrities, copies of works of art, &c., which, when held up to the light, proved really most beautiful transparencies, thus shewing the perfection attained in the art of watermarking. He proposes to continue the subject at the next meeting fixed for the 14th of May.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE 10th ordinary meeting was held at 9a, Princess Square on February 20th. The President in the chair. Mrs. Burley Grant, Miss L. F. Fowler and Mr. C. Manby (Bath) were elected members.

The 11th ordinary meeting was held on March 13th, when a display of the stamps of Queensland took place. Messrs. Barrett, Stevens, Milton and Kuttner (London) and Levy exhibited their collections, and, with the exception of the small series of high values, every issue was fully represented, particular attention having been paid to perforation and shade. During the evening the President and Vice-President gave short addresses explanatory of the exhibits, Mr. Stevens having made a special study of the perforations and various misprints of the later issues. Mr. Kuttner's exhibit was as usual very extensive and contained some fine specimens and rarities. Among Mr. Barrett's stamps, watermarked first star, was a peculiar silver marked grey shade of the one shilling, and an extremely rich brown threepenny, the latter shewing every line of the engraving would probably be one of the first impressions taken from the plate.

The 12th ordinary meeting was held on March 27th. The President in the chair. Votes of thanks were passed to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons for a copy of their handbook on "Shanghai," and to Mr. L'Estrange Ewen for his new catalogue of English Stamps. Mrs. Hitchings and Mrs. Raahange (Hull) were elected members. It was decided to postpone the exhibit of English Stamps till May.

The 13th meeting was held on April 10th. The President in the chair. The Hon. Sec. exhibited his collection of N.S. Wales and led a discussion on these stamps, in which most of the members who had also brought their collections to the meeting joined. A vote of thanks was passed to the Hon. Sec. who will continue the subject at the next meeting.—Asher Levy, hon. sec., 170, Union Street, Plymouth.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE monthly meeting of this Society was held on Tuesday, 2nd April. Mr. Oliver Fulti, the President, occupying the chair. There was a good muster of members and two visitors present. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been confirmed, and two new members elected, it was, on the proposition of the President, seconded by Mr. Stamford, unanimously resolved, "That this Society heartily endorses the action and attitude of Mr. M. P. Castle as explained by him at the Annual Dinner of the London Philatelic Society, held on the 26th February last, regarding the speculative issue of new stamps," and the Hon. Sec. was requested to forward a copy of such resolution to the Secretary of the London Society. It was felt by the members of the Society that an effort ought to be made by the various societies to adopt some means by which a stop could be put to such speculative issues, and it was thought this could be done by united action. A discussion then took place on the stamps of Nova Scotia, which was opened by the President, who dealt with the question in a very lucid and interesting manner, illustrating his remarks with a very nice collection of his own of the country. The next meeting, which will be the General Annual Meeting of the Society, will be held on Tuesday, the 7th of May next. W. H. Scott, hon. sec., 1, Piccadilly, Bradford.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE 13th Meeting of the Session was held at the Blackfriars Hotel, on Friday, March 29th, 1895, the President in the chair, supported by the Vice-President. Hon. Sec., Assistant Hon. Sec., Treasurer, Librarian, Messrs. Collette, Munn, Grunewald, Gibson, Petre, Harrison, Pemberton, North, Prout, Jones, Whapham, Ranck, Ostaro, Pellew, and one visitor.

After the formal business, which included the election of a new member, the Secretary announced that an invitation had been received from the Liverpool Society, and that the Liverpool Society desired one or two of the members to read a paper before their Society. It was resolved that the invitation be accepted, and that the Secretary be instructed to inform the Liverpool Society that one or other of the members of the Manchester Society would on that occasion, as requested, read a paper.

The President then read his paper on "Additions to the Catalogue of English Stamps," published by Messrs. Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd. After paying a tribute to the care and skill which the author of the catalogue had bestowed on his work, Mr. Roberts mentioned the following stamps (all of which, other than those specially excepted, were in his collection) which he did not find mentioned in the work in question.

- 4d. Plate 1, imperf.
 1d. A sheet of stamps was also prepared, but not issued for use, with a silk thread running horizontally through the paper in lieu of a watermark. This is known as the Dickinson paper.
 1d. Die II., wmk. large Crown. Rose red. Imperf.
 1d. Plate 146. Horizontal pair, used, Imperf.
 1d. Plate 191. Vertical pair, used, Imperf., was in the Philbrick collection.
 1½d. 1884. Proof in yellow. Perf.
 1½d. 1884. Proof in blue. Perf.
 2½d. 1884. Lilac. Imperf.
 2½d. 1884. Proof in brown. Perf.
 2½d. Plate 2. Lettered L. H. F. L. (recent discovery).
 3d. Plate 3. Perforated. Only one copy of this stamp is known to exist used. It was in the collection of the late Mr. G. W.

Binns, of Manchester, and sold by him to the late Mr. Tapling. It is now in the British Museum. Mr. Beckton informs me that perforated copies are being offered in London, unused, but they are perforated with the one penny machine, and appear quite different to the specimen in the Tapling Collection. These stamps are said to have been found in the effects of an official at Somerset House, and to have been perforated many years ago.

- 3d. Plate 4. No. wmk. Imperf. Probably a proof.
 6d. Octagonal. These exist with deep bleuté gum. The bluing does not show on the face.
 6d. 1856. Plate 1. Imperf. Used.
 6d. Plate 9. Imperf. In the following trial colours:—Brown-red, orange, ochre yellow, chestnut brown.
 2/- brown. Plate 1. Imperf.
 5/- Plate 1. Imperf.
 £1. 1884. The watermark was altered from orbs to 3 crowns again before the colour was changed to green. These stamps can be distinguished from the first printing by reason of their being printed in a darker shade.

1884 Issue.

The following values, over printed specimen, exist. Perforated 12. 1½d., 2d., 4d., 5d., 6d. and 5/-.

Addenda.

- 10d. red-brown. Plate 2. A copy on the original envelope, postmarked 12 Dec., '67, belonging to Mr. W. T. Wilson, was shown at the London Exhibition. Another copy is known to exist dated 11, 11, '67.
 2/- Plate 3 is known and used in an Australian collection.
 1d. black. 1840. A specimen, with double letters in the lower left corner, is in Mr. Beckton's collection.
 Mr. Roberts then dealt with the present prices of English stamps, after which he received a hearty vote of thanks for his paper.—W. Dorning Beckton, Daisy Bank, Swinton Park, Manchester.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING of the above Society was held at the Alexandra Hotel, Dale Street, on Monday, March 25th, the President (Mr. F. B. Bradbury) occupying the chair. There were 23 members and three visitors present. Mr. Herbert Woods, of Warrington, read a paper on the "Postal Adhesives of Great Britain." The subject was carefully prepared and treated in a clear and interesting manner, and on the proposition of Mr. Broad, seconded by Mr. Bradbury, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Woods for his useful essay upon a subject not often dealt with. Mr. Quiggin exhibited a number of surcharged Oil Rivers, &c., and Mr. Sayce also exhibited a fine collection of English stamps.

EDINBURGH AND LEITH SOCIETY.

MR. LIPMAN HUSH, 14, Clerk Street, Edinburgh, writes:—Dear Sir,—Many thanks for your kind letter of the 6th ultimo, which I have duly laid before the Club, and I must also thank you for all the good advice it contained. I am happy to say that it has been the means of reconstructing our Club, and that I think that now we will go forward, at least we ought to. The few of us who are more enthusiastic than the others, have all worked hard and we can only fail. I have very great pleasure in accepting on behalf of the Club, your generous offer as regards the paper. I herewith enclose a list of members and in the event of more members joining, which I anticipate, I shall have much

pleasure in forwarding you more subscriptions. We have decided to put stamps on the Exchange Sheets marked at half Scott's prices, until the new Gibbons' appears, and then adopt Gibbons' as the Standard.

RULES.

I.—This Society is known as the Edinburgh and Leith Philatelic Society.

II.—The purposes of the Society are:—

- (1) The bringing together of Philatelists for the discussion of Philatelic questions.
- (2) The Exchange of Postage-stamps.
- (3) To spread the knowledge and advocate the study of Stamps.

The meetings to be held fortnightly, on the first and third Monday of each month, at eight o'clock.

III.—The membership is open to stamp collectors only. Intending members to be proposed and seconded, and admittance to be balloted for.

IV.—The annual subscription to be 6/-, payable quarterly in advance. This subscription entitles each member to a copy of THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

V.—The Committee includes President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Librarian; three to form a quorum.

VI.—Admission to the Club room is by membership card only. Each member to be permitted to introduce a guest on the understanding that such guest shall not attend more than twice in such capacity.

VII.—That the Committee be empowered to deal with any complaint or dispute that may arise among the members. The expulsion of any undesirable member shall also be left entirely to the committee.

VIII.—One half of the total membership of the Society may at any time call upon the Committee to convene an extraordinary meeting, seven days notice of such meeting being given to all members of the Society.

After May 1st, 1895, there will be an entrance fee of 2 6.

The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is the Official Organ of the Society.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

RESIGNED, Mr. C. J. Bigger, Belfast. Deceased, Mr. H. W. Ward, Deddington, Oxon.

The Secretary begs to inform members that he has adopted the system of monthly balances in preference to every two months as previous to 1895.

During the months of July and August no packets will be sent out. Any sheets coming to hand for these packets will be held over till the September packets.

Jan. A Packet, 20 sheets, value £41 12s. 5d. 210 stamps exchanged, value £6 6s. 7d.

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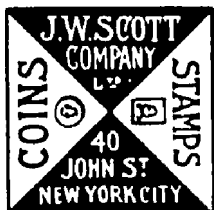
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.. ditto, block of 4	2	17	6
Perak, 2c. on 4c. rose, vertical surcharge	2	4	0
Mauritius envelope, 1/- yellow, entire	31	0	0
Natal, 1/- buff, two fair specimens	10	0	0
Transvaal, 1d. red on blue, error	3	10	0
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.. 6d. ditto	10	10	0
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THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 16.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies:

The Liverpool Philatelic Society.
Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society.

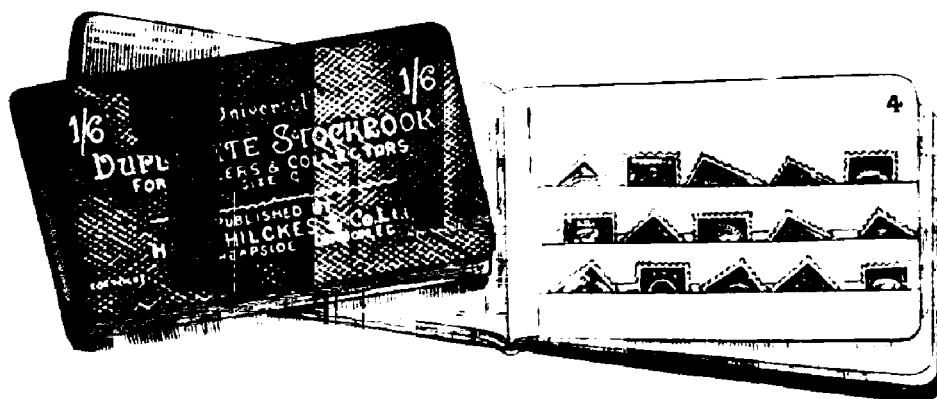
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" III.	- "Morocco"	- "	6/3
" IV.	- "Russia," Sheep lining	- "	6/6
" V.	- "English Monton"	- "	8/3
" VI.	- "Russia," Calf lining	- "	10/6

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May 4, 1895.

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DATES OF SALE, 1895.

May 7 and 8, and 23 and 24 | June 13.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, In announcing their Future Dates, beg to draw attention to the following important Sales:—

May 7 & 8.—Including a fine collection of New South Wales (broken up), the Sydney views, laureated, etc., amongst which are many fine specimens, and pairs will all be accurately described as regards position on plate, paper, colour and condition, also entire sheets of early Europeans, the remainder of the collection of Vernon Roberts, Esq., containing many rarities and the following:—

Baden: 1st issue, 9kr. black on green, error of colour.

France: A strip of 6, 1st issue, 1 franc, the first stamp being tête-bêche.

Spain: An unused pair of 19c., brown and rose, perforated.

Ceylon: 4d., 8d. and 9d. imperf. and fine.

Labuan: Provisional 6c. on 16c., red surcharge.

Natal: 1st issue complete.

Newfoundland: 6½d. carmine, used.

Pacific Steam Navigation Co.: 2 rls, red, used.

Peru: Medio peso, rose, and a very fine collection, nearly complete.

Queensland: Unused pairs of the (small size) 2/6, 5/-, 10/-, and 20/-, with gum.

and a few Collections.

May 23 & 24.—A fine selection, including Natal, 1st issue, 6d. green, cut in half and used as 3d., on piece of original; Mauritius, the large fillet, 2d. blue; Transvaal, 6d. blue with red surcharge, printed twice; Canada, strip of ½d. rose, imperf.; halves of stamps of Prince Edward's Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, used on the entire envelope; France, 1st issue, a strip of six, 1 franc, one stamp tête bêche, issued on piece of original; Ceylon, 1st issue, 6d. rouletted; New South Wales, 6d. violet, wmk., 12 unused, with gum, and many others, also several fine collections.

It is particularly requested that Owners desirous of obtaining Special Days of Sale, should communicate as early as possible, in order that due publicity may be given. Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, they have decided to issue them, in all cases where practicable, at least one month before the date of Sale. In order to enable them to carry out this arrangement, Owners intending to include Stamps, should forward them at the earliest possible moment.

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Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper,

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The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORNIGHTLY.

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

CONDUCTED BY
HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:
The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society.

No. 16.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	129
Scientific Philately made Easy	129
Philately at Home	130
English Stamps Used Abroad	131
Under Bennett's Clock	131
Between Ourselves	132
Forgers and their Work	133
Philately Abroad	134
Our Forum	135
Answers to Correspondents	136
Philatelic Events	136

Philatelic Personalities.

MR. HARBECK, of New York, whose fine general collection Mr. Chas. J. Phillips recently annexed, has been disposing of the remnants of his U.S.A. stamps, retaining only his Locals, upon which he intends to write a book.

* * *

Now that the Philbrick English Collection is half dispersed, Captain Vansittart possesses perhaps the next best British collection to that of the Duke of York. The Captain at one time was a "generalist," but having exceptional opportunities for the accumulation of British stamps he sold his foreigners for £800, and devoted himself exclusively to England and Colonies.

* * *

In an editorial in the last number of the "S.C.F." we alluded to Mr. William Brown as a Committee Member of the Philatelic Protection Association. In the interim we have discovered that he no longer holds that position. Ten thousand apologies to Mr. Wm. Brown. It's not a nice thing to say of a man, that he's a Committee Member of the P.P.A.

MR. WILMOT CORFIELD, a leading Calcutta collector, has been interviewed by the emissary of the *Philatelic World*. He is a Birmingham man, and for many years ran a newspaper in that city. In 1877 he won first prize for a philatelic essay in connection with Messrs. Stafford Smith's *Philatelic Quarterly*. Philatelically, he is "strong in old colonials."

STAMP DEALERS are going in for strange hobbies. Mr. Cheveley runs a Saturday-night paper in Reading, supplying the men of the biscuit town with a big ha'porth of football results and other news.

Scientific Philately Made Easy.

I.—PERFORATIONS.—By DR. BRYANT.

(Continued from page 122.)

In March, 1851, Archer and Branston submitted proposals and terms for printing the whole of the postage stamps required by the Inland Revenue Department at 5d. per thousand, inclusive of gumming and perforating. This meant a total reduction of national expenditure to the amount of £1,500 per year. They even went so far as to lower their tender to 4½d. per thousand if permitted to employ surface-printing. Sheets, both perforate and imperforate, of the "Prince Consort Essays" were enclosed, so that we know the first date of the "issue" of these now historical essays. Further, Archer offered to give up all claim for compensation for his long-continued toil and his machines if his proposals were accepted. But Messrs. Bacon, Fetch & Co., the contractors for the then current postage labels, lowered their price to 5d. per thousand in order to renew their profitable contract.

Archer had succeeded in his mechanical difficulties; he had now to combat with far more powerful obstacles, viz., the official departments of Government. Owing to certain parliamentary reformers taking up his claim where he had been forced to cease its assertion, a Committee was prayed for and granted. Its composition was strictly political, being Mr. Spooner, Ormsly Gore, Sir John Tyrrell, Mr. Geach, Mr. Hodgson, Mr. Grogan, Mr. Rich, Marquis of Chandos, Mr. Hy. Drummond and Mr. John Greene, with Mr. Muntz, of Birmingham, who asked for the appointment of the Committee as Chairman. This occurred in the early part of 1852, and in the meantime his machine was practically rusting. The Committee met for some few weeks, and the minutes of proceedings, together with the evidence taken of experts, were afterwards published as a Parliamentary Report for 1852. Before we reproduce that portion of the evidence relating more particularly to our subject, we should like to remark that the first two trials would come under the heading of roulettes, first roughly (7 to the 2 centimeters), and the

Has your friend Jones seen this paper? If not, 

second more regularly and closer. The third trial would gauge 15 oval holes.

Extract from minutes of proceedings of Parliamentary Committee appointed to consider the merits of Henry Archer's proposal.

March 29th, 1852. Mr. Muntz in the chair; who asked Mr. Branston, the engraver:

516 "Have you any specimens of postage stamp heads made by your printing?" "We were ordered to destroy all the impressions, and therefore they have been destroyed. These (producing them) are the heads of Prince Albert."

March 30th. On Rowland Hill being examined: Mr. John Greene placed the Prince Albert stamps before him, and asked:

1,010 "Is that a respectable forgery?" "No, it is not a respectable forgery; in the first place, it is not an imitation of the stamp; it is the head of Prince Albert."

1013 Mr. Muntz continuing the examination of this witness, asked: "Have you seen Mr. Archer's plan for piercing?" "I have seen the results—not the machine itself."

1,014 "What is your opinion as to the advisableness of adopting such a principle?" "My opinion is, it is advisable. I have stated that opinion in a minute addressed to the Postmaster-General, which is now before the Committee. I do not speak strongly upon the matter; my opinion is it would be useful and acceptable to the public to a certain extent."

So that the greatest postal reformer who ever lived was hardly alive to the value and utility of the now ubiquitous and valuable perforating machine. From his never having seen the machine in operation up to the moment of his giving the foregoing evidence, we can understand his seeming lukewarmness. The minute which he addressed to the P. M. G. insisted more on some recompense being made to Archer than the adoption of the machine.

The Committee unanimously recommended Government to purchase the patent, and to adopt perforation in principle. £4,000 was awarded to the inventor, who thereupon handed over his machine to the Inland Revenue Department. More than half this sum was due to the different mechanics and others who had given him (Archer) their practical aid in constructing or suggesting and carrying out of improvements upon the machine. It appears that the expenses of the various patents, specifications and other necessary documents amounted to £376, and after that, patents were taken out in France and Belgium. Mons. Hulet, to whom we have referred before, paid £400 in 1861-2 to Archer, who it appears lived for economy's sake in the south of France; he died at Pau on the 9th March, 1863. This sum was for the five months that remained of the French patent, so that little was reaped by the inventor of the perforation machine, when we allow for all these expenses and outlay. It is to the credit of the French Mint that they paid Archer something rather than delay the issue of officially perforated stamps.

(To be continued.)

Philately At Home.

MORE WRINKLES ABOUT WATERMARKS.

WE recently clipped from the *Bazaar's* "Philatelists' Supplement," a hint on the detection of watermarks. But there are cases in which the plan there indicated might prove ineffectual, so very indistinct are the watermarks of certain kinds of stamps. A good plan in such cases is to try the effect of light falling upon the back of the stamp in different ways. Thus, sometimes a watermark, otherwise invisible, shows up when the stamp is pressed close against a window pane or laid flat, face downwards, on some smooth dark surface—say American cloth. The evening, after the gas is lit, is one of the best times for trying this experiment, as the different ways in which the rays of light fall upon the stamp are often of great assistance, a watermark invisible from one point of view being often most distinct from another. In case this method does not succeed, the following is an almost infallible one, provided the stamp is not either printed in

fugitive colours or unused with original gum which it is desirable to retain.

First soak the stamp thoroughly in water, then, after lightly blotting up the superfluous moisture, press it firmly face downwards against a bit of black American cloth or some similar substance, and await developments. Just before the stamp dries the watermark will show up with surprising distinctness.

Yet another plan is to drop a little benzine on the back of the stamp instead of wetting it, which is said to have much the same effect, as the liquid evaporates and does not injure either gum or colour in the slightest degree. But those who use benzine should always remember that it is very inflammable, both in its liquid and gaseous form, and that, therefore, the operation should not take place too near a fire or gas jet.

WHERE POSTMEN NEVER GO.

THERE is one spot in England (*Cassell's Journal* tells us) to which letters cannot be delivered. It is situated in Somerset, not far from Cheddar, and it bears the appropriate name of Goblin Coombe, for the place is within the heart of a wood on the sparsely populated hills. Of course, the delivery of letters for villagers living in this remote locality is not a physical impossibility, but as each letter would cost one shilling in portage, the Postmaster-General requires the recipients of correspondence to call for their epistles, which are duly left for them at the nearest point touched by the postmen, a distance of two miles from Goblin Coombe.

THOSE CONGO GUMPAPS AGAIN.

SOME idea of the injury which gumpaps are causing may be gleaned from this extract from that well-known Irish newspaper, the *Cork Constitution*:

A remarkable instance of the rage for stamp collecting is just recorded. A few months ago a new set of stamps was prepared by a firm of English stamp engravers for the Congo Free State, to replace those bearing the effigy of King Leopold. The new issue were artistic reproductions of African scenes. In view of the proposed cession of the Free state to Belgium, when a fresh set of stamps will be no doubt issued, the attention of philatelists was attracted to the recent issue, with the result that it was actually all bought up in England, and not a single set went to Congo! This is surely the *reductio ad absurdum* of stamp-collecting.

Indeed it is, and it is, perhaps, not altogether extraordinary that an Irish newspaper is before certain omniscient philatelic journals in detecting the humorous absurdity of the whole business. Stamp collectors and stamp dealers are giving the sneering pressman ample justification for his anti-philatelic flippancies.

A BIG LONDON STOCK UNDER THE HAMMER.

MR. W. HADLOW informs us that he has received instructions to sell the bulk of the stock of one of the largest firms of London stamp dealers. We are not allowed to "name names," but a nod is as good as a wink to a wise philatelist, and we may so far "nod" as to advise every stampite who wishes to "assist," as the French say, at a series of good sales to importune Mr. Hadlow for catalogues of the little functions he has arranged for six consecutive Saturday afternoons, commencing May 11th. The "stuff" sold will chiefly comprise a superb set of books of Stamps, including splendid collections of South American, Cashmere, Peru, British Guiana, Transvaal, New Zealand, European, Spain, Turkey, and many others. Programmes, we believe, are now ready, and the box office is open from ten to five.

STILL THEY COME, THESE WRETCHED GUMPAPS!

THE news that Dahomey is to have postage stamps is another bitter pill for the philatelist to swallow. This is Obockism and Djiboutology continued, for the French are paramount in Dahomey. 'Twere better for philately if cannibal kings and rum-swilling kaffirs were left in undisputed possession of their own territory; for annexation, or colonization, or protection, whichever fine word we may use to dignify the murderous execution of our bayonets and maxims, means for us philatelists merely gumpaps, gumpaps, *encore* gumpaps!

Send us his address and we will gladly post him a specimen copy.

English Stamps Used Abroad.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 122.)

- C 37
Caldera.
 - 3d. carmine, plates 17, 18.
 - 6d. violet, plates 6, 9.
 - 6d. grey-green, plates 15, 16 (spray), 19 (crown).
 - 8d. orange.
 - 9d. bistre (spray).
 - 10d. pale brown.
 - 1 sh. green, plates 8, 12, 13.
 - 2 sh. blue.
 - 2 sh. brown.

- C 38
Callao.
 - 1d. rose-red, plate 144.
 - 2d. blue, plate 14.
 - 3d. carmine, plates 5, 6, 8, 15, 18.
 - 4d. orange, plates 10, 11, 12, 14.
 - 4d. vermilion, plate 15.
 - 4d. sage, plate 15, 16.
 - 6d. violet, plate 3 (emblems), 6, 8, 9 (spray).
 - 6d. dark buff, plate 11.
 - 6d. light 12.
 - 6d. grey-green, plates 13, 14, 15, 15.
 - 8d. orange.
 - 9d. bistre, plate 4 (emblems), 4 (spray).
 - 10d. pale brown.
 - 1 sh. green, plates 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 (spray).
 - 2 sh. blue.
 - 5 sh. rose, plate 1, 2.

- C 40
Coquimbo.
 - 3d. carmine, plate 19.
 - 6d. violet, plate 4 (emblems), 8, 9 (spray).
 - 6d. light buff, plate 11.
 - 9d. bistre, plate 4 (spray).
 - 1 sh. green, 6, 8, 12, 13 (spray)
 - 2 sh. blue.
 - 5 sh. rose, plate 1 (postmark in black).
 - 5 sh. .. plate 2 blue

- C 41
Quayquil.
 - 3d. carmine, plates 16, 18.
 - 4d. orange, plates 7, 13.
 - 4d. vermilion, plate 15.
 - 6d. violet, 4, 6 (emblems).
 - 6d. grey-green, plates 14, 15.
 - 9d. bistre, plate 4 (spray).
 - 10d. pale brown.
 - 1 sh. green, plate 4 (emblems), 4, 8, 12 (spray).
 - 2 sh. blue.
 - 2 sh. brown.

- C 42
Istay.
 - 4d. green, plate 16.
 - 6d. violet, plate 4 (emblems).
 - 6d. grey-green, plate 14.
 - 1 sh. green, plate 12.

(To be continued).

The Exchange Society has been formed, and the first packet will go out on the 6th of May. Will any member who wishes to see the packet, but has not had time to make a sheet, kindly communicate his wish to the Secretary, at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.; his name will then be added to the list.

H. H.

To Postal Subscribers.

PLEASE find on this space a 1/2 Anna Stamp of India, surcharge O.H.M.S., presented gratis to postal subscribers only.



Owing to extreme pressure of space a large number of most interesting matter has to be held over, among others, the Secret Marks of the Stamps of Switzerland. On Plating the Stamps of Nevis, by Mr. W. T. Willett. Our Black List, etc., etc.—E.H.S.]

I HAVE received the following letter from one of our readers in Bradford; others have similarly expressed themselves.

STAMPS GIVEN AWAY!

A PROTEST.

DEAR SIRS. Do you really think it is necessary in order to keep up or increase the circulation of your popular paper to present a Postage Stamp with each copy issued? This sort of thing was all very well with school boys in days gone by, but now that Philately is the study and hobby of a large section of the adult members of the community, I really think such an incentive as the present of a stamp (which of necessity must be a common one) is quite unnecessary. I feel that such procedure considerably lowers the status of your paper, and I hold the opinion that a large number, if not the great majority, of your readers think the same. Could you not take their opinion in the matter in the same way as you did on the question of publishing the result of the Auction Sales?

There has been more real and practical information given to collectors by your paper during the short time it has appeared than has been contained in the whole of some of the other philatelic papers during the many years of their existence.

Yours truly, W.H.S.

Bradford, 23rd April, 1895.

To all these I should like to explain that the "S.C.F." is not only meant to be a guide to advanced collectors, but that I desire it to be a recruiting means to educate up all those small and wavering collectors who have not yet decided whether they mean to collect coloured labels or whether they are going to become serious philatelists. To induce these small collectors to subscribe to the "S.C.F." and to stick to it, we have adopted the policy of our old friend, the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly," to include a stamp in every issue of the "FORTNIGHTLY." There is still another point to be considered. Every copy sold to postal subscribers means 1d. nett. to us, whereas copies sold through the agents only bring us 1/2d., it is therefore obvious that we can well afford, as a special inducement to postal subscribers, to supply them with a stamp for the extra 1/2d. That is a mere commercial view of the case. Those who do not like it can leave the stamp in the paper and overlook the fact of its being there.

HARRY HILCKES.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

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The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MAY 4, 1895.

... Between Ourselves ...

BUT a few days hence, the great question pressed to the front by the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY will be discussed by a Committee of the London Philatelic Society, in conjunction with the editors of this paper and other gentlemen who have interested themselves in the crusade. The day will be a red-letter one in philatelic annals, as the day on which the first nail was driven into the coffin of the gumpap. Since we initiated the anti-gumpap agitation in October, we have been earnestly weighing the possibilities of a great arousal of public feeling upon this matter. Only by united, universal action can any good results be achieved. There must be no rivalry, no petty personal bickering, no paltering, "P.P.A." procrastination about this gumpap business. All must fight shoulder to shoulder for the cause. Without gumpaps philately lives, but with an unchecked output of this vile rubbish, it is not difficult to foresee the decline and fall of our hobby. Now how can the gumpap be killed? We have asked the question before a dozen times, but it is a question that remains unanswered. Our first idea was a great Anti-Gumpap League, a universal Philatelic Brotherhood, which every stamp collector, man, woman, or child, should be asked, induced, if possible, forced to join. The membership fee of our League was to be a mere nothing—sixpence, or perhaps only threepence, a year—just enough, anyhow, to pay printing and postage expenses. We pictured in our mind's eye a great, a world-wide association which everyone would be forced, by the weight of public opinion, to join and support; an association which not even the laziest, most apathetic of philatelists would be allowed to hold aloof from. But that little dream of ours was too large an order, and we were not long in awaking to the fact. Then Mr. Nankivell, in his address to the City of London Philatelic Club, advised that we commence at the other end—by making representations to the various Governments concerned. This again is a large order, albeit there is hope in the healthy precedent set by British Government officials in their action with regard to St. Helena, Oil Rivers, and other parts of the Empire that have suffered from a tinge of gumpapishness.

Having dismissed our League idea as unworkable, it occurred to us that a system of "government by committee," as it were, would be the true solution of the difficulty. This idea, we know, commends itself to Mr. M. P. Castle and Mr. Edward J. Nankivell,—two stalwarts of the anti-gumpap cause—and in all probability this is the nucleus of a scheme which will be talked into something like definite shape at the meeting of the Gumpap Committee.

It will first be necessary, of course, to appoint an *English Grand Committee* to arbitrate upon the status of all new issues of stamps, and to attend to the propaganda of the crusade abroad.

As to the *composition of the English Committee* it will be at once evident that both dealers and collectors should be represented. Perhaps, two-thirds of collectors and one-third dealers would be the fairest "balance of parties."

Numerically, as well as in other ways, it seems to us that the *Committee should be a strong one*, consisting of men whose names are well known and well respected in philately. The selection of men who are *personally popular among the greatest number of philatelists* we regard as a most important point. An English Committee of thirty persons—thirteen to form a quorum—would not be unduly large, considering the world-wide importance of the matters to be adjudicated upon.

Details of Policy are matters which must of necessity be left to the discretion of the Committee; but it will be obvious to all that much would be gained by the employment of honorary or paid agents in countries where questionable issues of stamps are most to be feared.

Bogus Issues, as well as gumpaps, will presumably fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee.

An instance of the *prospective usefulness of the Committee* is afforded by a glance at one of the latest bogus issues—that of *Nyassaland*. Had our Gumpap Committee been in existence at the time of the first announcement of this issue, the contravention of the Nyassa Company's Charter would probably have been detected, and the danger averted. Arguing from this specific instance, it would perhaps be as well for our British Gumpap Committee to examine closely all future charters granted to such companies, and also to enquire into the stamp-issuing privileges of all feudatory states and countries unconstitutionally governed.

And what of the *sinews of war*? Money in no mean quantity will be wanted to push forward the good work. It will be quite in order, we take it, to *appeal to the philatelic public for funds*; and we may say that we should like to be allowed the privilege of five minutes' serious talk with the man, calling himself a philatelist, who would be niggardly enough to refuse his mite for such a purpose.

If funds are appealed for, of course *Balance Sheets* must be forthcoming, and the policy of the Committee all round must be one of openness and honesty, and not one of *convenient secrecy*, like that of the P.P.A.

Other ideas crowd in upon us as we write, but already we have far exceeded the space we generally allot to a single editorial. We think we have enumerated a number of points which call for earnest discussion, and though our conclusions may in some particulars be wrong, we think that in the main they are plain, honest, commonsense suggestions.

For the present, then, dear Monsieur Gumpap, you may go. We have done with you—*till the 6th of May!*

* * *

We found it necessary in a recent issue to take a small provincial contemporary to task for impudently asserting that it initiated the anti-gumpap crusade! We now have the reply of the "S.P.C." (small provincial contemporary), the said reply extending to a full page of that journal's none too liberal space. We are happy in having at one and the same time chastised our little friend and given it an opportunity for airing its very best sarcasm—sarcasm which, we are sorely afraid, will be read all too seriously by those who subscribe to our small contemporary. For it is safer, in these days, to judge a man by the literature he reads, than by the company he keeps.

It was inevitable that our contemporary should affect to misconstrue our strictures. There are none so blind as those who won't see! The "S.P.C." stated that it initiated the anti-gumpap crusade; and we retorted that that statement was impudently, audaciously false. Of what avail then is it to prattle of wishy-washy articles about "Unnecessary Issues"—articles which bore as much resemblance to a "Crusade" as a stump speech bears to a General Election.

But let us proceed. We have more serious matters demanding our attention than the lies of an insignificant print.

Our interest in an article headed, "Philatelic Blackmail," in the *Philatelic World* is not unnaturally heightened by the fact that a recent philatelic *cause célèbre*—*Hilckes & Co. v. Mrs. Louisa Hime*—is cited as calling forth the article in question. Of course, our publishers' suit terminated justly—that is not the point in question. The point is that certain small and shady dealers seek to supplement their incomes by means of a system of fraud which, for convenience sake, may be designated blackmail. Such a case has lately come to the knowledge of the editor of the *Philatelic World*. A firm of dealers sent, unsolicited, to the publisher of that paper certain sheets of stamps for sale. The quality and condition of the stamps were not great, but in justice to his correspondent Mr. Gordon Jones circulated the sheets among some of his customers, "every one of whom can be named and who have characters absolutely beyond suspicion." The sales effected amounted to about £2 10s. or so, and the sheets with account sales were returned to the dealer. The results apparently did not satisfy this gentleman for in his reply he made an accusation that "no less than eight stamps had been changed—for which he (Mr. Gordon Jones) must remit in full." He added, "Please see that this does not occur again," and—funniest thing of all—actually enclosed a further selection for Mr. Gordon Jones's approval. That alone was sufficient to show the falsity of the absurd charge brought against Mr. Jones, but our Calcutta *confrère*, being apparently a lover of peace, paid the comparatively small sum demanded, but of course returned the second selection and rigorously declined to have any further dealings with his shady correspondent. Pity 'tis that so many blots deface the 'scutcheon of philately. We happen to know that this little act of blackmail is not confined to India. Nor is it confined to dealers, good Calcutta editor.

* * *

A CORRESPONDENT of Mr. Maury advocates in all seriousness free trade for foreign stamps. If it is not permitted, he says, to sell forged stamps without the word "Facsimile" written across the face of it, why not go a step further and demand of every lady who wears paste to have her jewels stamped as such; why not plaster across the face of every copy of the Venus of Milo a printed label, "facsimile"; why not print in large capitals across every copy of Raphael's immortal works the same word? And why not, we ask! It would certainly be of the greatest satisfaction all round, if all copies could be recognised as such. Swindle in the picture trade is quite a common thing, but swindle in the stamp trade is commoner still, and therefore more care should be taken to safeguard against any fraud, especially as so many stamps change hands every day without an expert having a chance to express an opinion. Say, for instance, a dealer sells an Austrian reprint as such; the collector who purchases has to sell his collection one day, when he may transfer it to a dealer who, like most of them, knows nothing whatever about reprints. Such a dealer would naturally price it as an original, and ten to one an equally ignorant collector will buy it as such. All parties will have acted quite bona-fide, but for all that the last collector has spent his money on worthless trash. Another case. Some years ago a photograph was made of the O'Connell stamp, sold, perhaps, for 1s. each, and only the other day such a photograph was sent to our publishers for opinion by a very well-known philatelist, to whom it had been submitted. We wonder what poor mortal lost some pounds on that transaction, which might have been saved had the "things" been marked photograph on the back. What about the hundreds of thousands of Reprints of Heligoland and Alsace Lorraine, which are found in every collection offered for sale, not singly but by the dozen. Surely if all the Heligolands now on the market bore some distinguishing mark denoting their character, what time would be saved which is now spent in careful examination. The time is near at hand when it will be considered dishonest for any dealer to sell reprints, without their being marked as such. Leading dealers like Stanley Gibbons, Sent, and others, publicly declare that they do not sell reprints, and

the sooner the small fry follow suit the better it will be for collectors. It is not so very long ago that our publishers ordered some Austrian, second issue, *used*, from a member of the Philatelic Protection Association; the delivery took place in worthless reprints, and the explanation was "that it was a mistake of the clerks," and of course we had to believe that, but we wonder how many of these mistakes occur during the year, and of those which do occur how many are found out.

Forgers and their Work.

THE 40 PARAS LEVANT.

A PAPER READ AT A MEETING OF THE CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB BY HARRY HILCKES.

AS I have foreshadowed in previous issues of the FORTNIGHTLY, I have been investigating for many months past the stamps issued by the British Postmaster in Constantinople to meet the dearth of 40 paras stamps.

On the 25th February, 1893, it was found in Constantinople that the supply of these stamps had run short, and although fresh quantities were telegraphed for, they could not reach Constantinople before the 2nd or 3rd March, therefore the Postmaster issued *on his own responsibility* a provisional made from the ordinary 4d. English, which was surcharged by means of a brass hand-stamp "40 Paras." As he was quite alive to the possibility of fraud if these stamps were sold over the counter, he determined *not to sell* them over the counter, but only affix them to letters which were handed in to the office by the public. The various officials had instructions to postmark each stamp there and then. The surcharging was evidently done in a most careless manner, as I find that the brass stamp must have got damaged after one day's use, since all copies postmarked on the 25th February (copies of which I am satisfied are absolutely genuine) have the surcharge quite perfect, no single letter being in any way damaged; however, since the 26th February, 99 out of every 100 show an "S" with the top part broken. No doubt the brass stamp was dropped on the floor, and the type inside it battered. When it became known to the Post Office in London that a provisional stamp had been issued in Constantinople, a telegram was forwarded from the Home Department with instructions to send up a sufficient quantity (about 800 to 1,000) for distribution to the Postal Union Offices, every one of which showed the broken "S," but I possess entire envelopes posted on the 25th February, and received in Germany and this country within two or three days, as shown by the date stamp of the receiving post office, which do *not* show the broken "S."

In addition to this, Mr. Cobb, the Postmaster of Constantinople, positively affirms that only one brass hand-stamp was used, and that is why I have come to the conclusion that the hand-stamp must have been damaged on the first day. So far I have seen no genuine copies dated 26th February without the broken "S."

At this juncture I am unable to give the exact figures as regards the number of stamps surcharged, but I estimate them from reports to hand to be between 8,000 and 10,000 copies, 1,000 of which are in official hands.

Naturally our friend the forger saw his opportunity at once and within a few days of issue forgeries appeared which bear the genuine postmark, but in which the date has evidently been re-set, as the position of the figures does not agree with those copies which I know are genuine.



Fig. 1.

In one instance (figure 1) the 93 appears over the rim of the postmark; obviously the stamp was first post-marked without the date, and the date was inserted afterwards. Messrs. Whitfield King have kindly put at my disposal their entire stock, numbering some 113, of which only seven are genuine; of the remaining 106, 105 are of one class of forgery, and one belongs to another of which I have

since only seen one more copy (figure 1). By far the most dangerous forgery is the one of which I show three different illustrations, dated 25th, 27th Feb. and 1st March respectively (figures 2, 3, and 4).



Fig. 2. Fig. 3. Fig. 4.

To facilitate detection I here give the measurement of the genuine type taken with our "Universal Ivory Surcharge Measure" :—

Length from the extreme point of 4b to the extreme point of the S, 16½ mm.

Height of type, 3 mm. exactly.

Distance between 4a and Paras, 1¼ mm.

The forgery just mentioned measures as follows :—

Length, 17¼ mm.

Height of type, 3¼ mm.

Distance between 4a and Paras, 2¼ mm.

It is therefore plain that the easiest way to detect this type would be to measure the distance between 4a and Paras.

4

Another striking point is the shape of the 4, of which I append a large illustration of the genuine and forged type. It will be seen that while the former is perfectly closed at top and of rather thick appearance the latter appears much thinner and is quite open.

4

Forgery.

The other forgery which I mentioned above (figure 1) measures as follows :—

Length, 17¼ mm.

Height, 3¼ mm.

Distance between 4a and Paras, 2¼ mm.



Fig. 6.

Another type of a forgery has come to my knowledge (figure 6). The measurements are as follows :—

Length, 16½ mm.

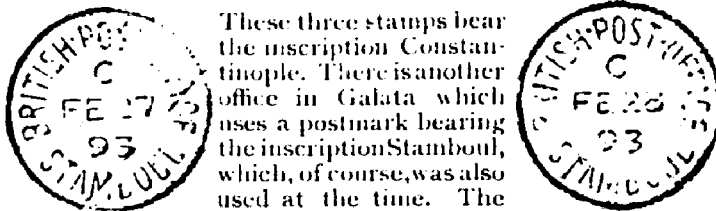
Height of type, 3¼ mm.

Distance between 4a and Paras, 1¼ mm.

but in this case the cross bar of the "A" in Paras is much higher than in the genuine type. I have ascertained that a large number of these forgeries bear the initial of a clerk in the British Post Office at Constantinople. This is the explanation :—The forger, or someone connected with him, submitted a number of their make to this officer at the counter, asking him to initial them. He did so. I will be charitable, and believe that he simply did it out of good nature, but I consider it a gross piece of carelessness, and have consequently put it before the notice of the authorities. I have also been informed that the same clerk has been supplying the dealers in Constantinople with the genuine stamps in very large quantities (one man is reputed to hold 1,000 copies) at 2s. a copy. How far this is true further investigations will show. I now append illustrations of date stamps used at the British Post Office, but of course the dates



do not agree, as the impressions were struck this year.



These three stamps bear the inscription Constantinople. There is another office in Galata which uses a postmark bearing the inscription Stamboul, which, of course, was also used at the time. The

strip of four unused copies which are likewise illustrated have never been in the hands of a stamp dealer or a



collector, and their authenticity is absolutely beyond a doubt. So far to-day. The last word has by no means been written on these stamps; in a few weeks time I hope to be in possession of further information, chiefly documents which are promised to me by the Secretary of the G.P.O. Cordial thanks are due to Messrs. Whitfield King who placed everything they had in their possession at my disposal, and it is mainly due to their courtesy that I have been able to go into this matter so exhaustively. It may be interesting to many to know that I drew the attention of Mr. F. R. Ginn, the Secretary of the Philatelic Protection Association, to the large number of forgeries of this particular stamp without the slightest notice being taken, and I have also applied to most of the members of the P.P.A. to assist me in my researches, and with the exception of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Mr. Peckitt who wrote saying that they had none in stock, no response whatever was made by any of the other members. I maintain that such an investigation was within the sphere of this ornamental body, and what took me many months to accomplish might have been done by the P.P.A. in a few weeks if all members joined hands. Collectors would have been spared the annoyance of having purchased spurious stamps from respectable dealers, and I daresay dealers would have been spared the annoyance of returning the money for such a spurious article.

Philately Abroad.

AUCTIONS EVERYWHERE.

PARIS.—An Auction took place on April 23rd-25th under the auspices of M. Ch. Sarrus and Boitel, when the following prices were realised :—

	£	s.	d.
Basle, 2½r.	6	0	0
Brazil, 300r., slanting figures	3	8	0
Buenos Ayres, 3 pesos, green	5	4	0
Ditto 5 .. yellow	17	15	0
British Columbia, 1., green, perf. 12½, unused	2	2	0
Naples, 50gr., lake, unused	3	2	0
Peru, medio peso-yellow	1	16	0
Spain, 1852, 2 reales	9	5	0
Ditto, 1853, 2	5	8	0
Tuscany, 60 crazie	8	8	0
Zürich, 6 rappen ½	1	7	0
Ditto 6	1	8	0

If you don't file your "Fortnightlies," pass this number on to a friend; —

In addition to these prices it must be considered that a commission of 5% is charged according to French customs. Nothing transpired as regards the condition of the stamps, but should any future sales take place, we shall endeavour to chronicle the results according to our classification.—*a.b.c.*

Mulhouse (Alsace).—The very-much-alive Society of this city have inaugurated a public sale for the 29th April and 6th May. The catalogue includes a great number of European stamps—many really rare. We hope to be able to present our readers with a report in due course.

NATAL 1d. SURCHARGE.—NEW ISSUE.

QUITE recently the stock of 1d. stamps in Petermaritzburg became exhausted, and a provisional was created by surcharging 240,000 of the old 6d. violet, wmk. C.C., which were snapped up in the usual idiotic manner, and a fresh supply had to be manufactured. This time, they took the ordinary 1d. rose and surcharged it in bold letters "Half." When our correspondent left Africa they were still printing and issuing these stamps, they are therefore by no means rare, although we are informed that £8 to £10 is asked for a sheet of 120 stamps (face value, 5/-) which means a modest premium, 4,000%.

PERU.—THE BERMUDEZ SERIES.*

WE have it on very excellent authority that the quantities as given by "*Der Philatelist*" are not quite correct; it is officially stated that only the following values were surcharged:—

- 1 Centavo, green and yellow.
- 2 .. carmine, violet, red (surcharged oval and horseshoe).
- 5 .. blue, dark-blue (and horseshoe).
- 10 .. green.
- 50 .. dark-green, rose (and horseshoe).
- 1 soldi, blue (and horseshoe).

Any other varieties are *not* official.

STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ABROAD.

From the *Siam Free Press* we learn that a notary in Mauritius has found among some old papers two of the rare "Post Office" Stamps of that island.

Another valuable "find" is reported from Brookwood, Ala, U.S.A. Miss Grace Wyate has discovered a Uniontown, Ala, stamp issued in war time and quoted, such is its rarity, at \$1,000.

The gum on the present U.S.A. postage stamps is made from alcohol one part, acetic acid one part, dextrine two parts, and water five parts.

No less a person than Mr. Eugene Field, writing in the *Chicago Record*, says:—"Nearly every little boy is at one time or another a collector of postage stamps, but this fad is not a staying one; it works out with years and not infrequently before six months have rolled by. The postage stamp craze has come to be regarded as much a phase of boy life as is the marble mania, or the kite, or the hoop, or the peg-top craze."

Mekeel's Weekly assures us that a \$1 Columbian has recently changed hands for \$6. And "the purchaser esteemed himself fortunate," too!

Two sisters of charity intently scanning the sales books and buying stamps was the somewhat unusual sight afforded patrons of a Chicago dealer the other day.



**** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.**

"MENDED" AND "COMPOSITE" STAMPS.

DEAR SIRs.—Permit me to endorse the opinion expressed by several of your correspondents as to whether "a mended stamp is a fake or not."

I hold that so long as a stamp is made up of two or more parts of its ORIGINAL WHOLE, IT IS NOT A FAKE, but simply a mended stamp; and should it ever be disposed of by its

"mender," then it is only necessary to state that the stamp has been mended, in addition to the fact that in nine cases out of ten the piecing together, etc., can be discernible by any would-be purchaser; of course this statement on the part of the original owner only relieves him from any wish to deceive; but in any case I consider the stamp not to be "faked" as long as it is made up of its original parts, even if it be wanting in any corner, etc.

What would be a "fake" in my opinion would arise if the corner of any other stamp were added, or if a little paint, etc., were touched up on any part of the original stamp; because it is clear that the stamp would then consist of either two or more stamps, or else consist of a corner, etc., patched up by paint to try and represent the original colour.

Of course mended stamps are in some cases better than none at all; but so far as I am concerned I would sooner have an "unsound mended genuine stamp" than a "sound" (?) stamp, mended by parts of additional stamps or by other mechanical process.

Faithfully yours,

Rochdale, 24th April, 1895.

E.H.

BELUCHISTAN'S NEGLECTED OPPORTUNITY.

DEAR SIRs.—Noticing that Beluchistan is not so up-to-date as certain other countries and principalities, I suggest some such issue as the following; of course, perf. and imperf., and in 14 shades, also 15 errors:—

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| 1 takin. | 6 patts. |
| 2 nogos. | 7 blots. |
| 3 lotofinki. | 10 pins. |
| 4 gungums. | 1 rubbeesh. |
| 4 tanners (8 dies). | 2 cops. |
| 5½ craziums. | 5 pranks. |

Prosit the S.C.F.—and please let me be informed when my subscription runs out.

O. R. R.

Kensington, 22nd April, 1895.

AN ANTI-GUMPAP LEAGUE.

DEAR SIRs.—Having read the correspondence that has passed in your excellent paper on "Gumpaps," I take up my pen to support the proposal of your correspondents signing themselves "J.L." and "W.B.E." I am pleased to see that one society has made a move in the right direction. I believe that the time has now arrived for decisive and united action. I have for some time past proposed a league among my friends, and have met with satisfactory success. The name of the league, I suggest, should be "The National Anti-Gumpap League."—Yours obediently,

J. E.

Sidney Street, London, E.C., 23rd April, 1895.

DEAR SIRs.—No one joins more heartily with you than I do in your "Anti-Gumpap Crusade." I take up my pen now to ask the aid of fellow-collectors throughout the entire world in putting a stop to these emissions. I maintain that it is as great an atrocity on the Philatelic world as the Armenian affair is on Christianity,—to set out and display to young collectors and beginners such rubbish as is at present said to be in use in Central America, Portugal, French Colonies and Darkest Africa. If honest dealers will help us, I think the sale of such labels might be so lowered that it would not pay the "authorities" to print them. The U.S.A. Columbian issue was in use for one year only, and it was known that after the close of 1893 no further supplies would be forthcoming. Did the States sell any remainders? No, not one, and I think other countries, especially Central American Republics, would earn more income and fill their exchequers more quickly if they gave up the Seebeck Contract and returned to their old ways.—I am, sirs, yours,

PENDRAGON II.

DEAR SIRs.—This Gumpap question should not be allowed to rest without something practicable being done; still I do not think that anything workable has yet been suggested. Almost every dealer must be against this continual issue of

He will be the gainer and you will have lost nothing.

unnecessary stamps; however I do not think dealers can be expected to destroy their present stock, as many could not afford to do so. It is against future issues that the stand must be made, as I consider those now in the market are as nothing to what is in store for us in the future, if a firm stand is not made against them.

Let the leading dealers form an Anti-Gumpap League, with the understanding that all New Issues after a certain date, say January 1st, 1896 (that would give time to have the League in working order), shall not be bought or catalogued until such issues have been pronounced to be genuine (and not made principally for Collectors) by the Anti-Gumpap League Committee. It is only by Stamp Dealers standing firmly by each other in this matter that the plague can be stayed. And I would further suggest that Dealers agree to buy no more of the gumpaps that are now in circulation, except genuine postally used specimens. Stamps cancelled to order not to be bought at any price. Collectors as well as dealers ought also to be invited to join in this great fight for philatelic purity.—Yours truly,

J. J.

FOR ADVERTISERS ONLY!

DEAR SIR,—I find that I have received in all 237 LETTERS in reply to my advertisement in No. 9 in the "S.C.F." asking for ½d. and 1d. stamps to make up an abandoned collection with the common issues of the last ten years. Of these, only four were from dealers, and among the others I got hundreds of beautiful stamps. Having still a conscience,—although I am still a stamp collector—I sent one correspondent five shillings for a stamp he offered me at ½d. One of your correspondents, a Mr. Smith, living at Kingston (I think), sent me 1000 different stamps for one guinea, which produced the astonishing result of 724 stamps that were not in my collection (which stopped at 4000 in 1883), and this must be very bad for trade!—the average price coming out at three a penny.

Yours faithfully,

Venice, April 25th, 1895.

E. HERON ALLEN.



Answers to Correspondents.

* * We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

F. (South Woodford).—The ½d. rose Victoria, *imperf.*, watermark single-lined 4, although "with large margins," is of very problematical nature, since perf. copies have been noticed, which could easily be made with this variety. We shall believe in this stamp when we see a pair.

C. (Edinburgh).—In the early days of postage stamps, it was quite optional whether one prepaid a letter or not. Your envelope, however, was not sent by Government service, but by the "Penny Post" Service, which did a very large carrying business in those days. Your envelope is of no particular value. Stamps returned 27/4/95.

H. R. (Jersey).—English stamps sometimes escaped being postmarked. According to a tacit understanding among the various Postal Union Offices, it is the duty of the Receiving Office to obliterate such stamps. Hence it happens that French postmarks sometimes occur on English stamps. There is still another explanation, and if you will refer to the introductory notes on "English Stamps Used Abroad," you will find all particulars.

STAMPEDIAN (London).—You wish to know the best method to arrange and preserve reconstructed sheets of English stamps.—We should advise you to obtain some of the little pocket albums, designed by Mr. Hadlow (3d each, or 2/6 per

dozen, from our publishers). Having filled one of these, which would be equivalent to completing one plate, you should obtain a piece of cardboard sufficiently large to hold the entire plate, and then mount every stamp with hinges. The complete cardboard should be framed, which can be done very cheaply. The little extra expense of frame, etc., is amply compensated by the complete immunity from damage through dust and fingering.

J. R. (Bristol).—All stamps in auction supplement, unless otherwise stated, are to be taken as *used*.

A. M. (Edinburgh).—Many thanks for your kind letter; we will endeavour to elucidate the various points which puzzle you. "Used" Reprints we are glad to say, are not yet, and we sincerely trust, never will be a saleable article; hence why Scott does not quote the 1869 issue of U.S.A. without embossing, *i.e.* the reprints, in the used state (*b.*) "centre misplaced" in Mr. Hadlow's catalogue of 22nd November, does not mean "centre reversed"—(*c.*) Of course the compiler of Messrs. Bull's catalogue was at fault when he stated that the Turkey 25p. belonged to the 1867 issue, he should have written the 1895 d. Senf's old catalogue for 1894 is altogether at sea for English Colonial's, and absolutely no guide whatever. The edition, which is now in the press, will, however, be quite different.—Next please!

R. A., Merida (Venezuela). We are glad to hear that you find the auction supplement of such interest. I shall be pleased if you will introduce the S.C.F. among your friends.

E. G. F. (Anerley).—The address will be sent you on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING MAY 18th.

All News for this column must reach the office first post on Wednesday previous to date of publication.

Gumpap Committee.

May 6.—Meeting at the rooms of the London Philatelic Society, Effingham House, Arundel Street, at 7.30 p.m.

Auction Sales.

May 7-8.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 6 p.m. precisely.

May 11.—Mr. Wm. Hadlow, at 13, Warwick Court, at 2 p.m.

May 15.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at their rooms, 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 6 p.m.

May 17.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 & 64, Chancery Lane, E.C., at 6 p.m.

May 17.—Mr. Wm. Hadlow, at 13, Warwick Court, at 6 p.m.

May 18.—Mr. Wm. Hadlow, at 13, Warwick Court, at 2 p.m.

Tapling Collection.

The following countries are now on view in the King's Library, British Museum: British Guiana (last part), British Honduras, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Falkland Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Nevis, Royal Mail Company, St. Christopher.

City of London Club.

Weekly Meetings at 121, Cheapside, Cossavella's Restaurant, every Thursday, at 7.30 p.m. No Meeting on May 16th.

I. P. U.—

May 16.—Meeting at the Arbitration Room, 63 & 64, Chancery Lane, E.C.

London Philatelic Society.

Every alternate Friday at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

London Philatelic Exchange.

May 7.—121, Cheapside, E.C., Cossavella's Restaurant.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.—Pages of Two Columns.

For One Insertion—	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Page	5 0 0	Whole Page	4 0 0
Half Page	2 15 0	Half Page	2 5 0
Quarter Page	1 10 0	Quarter Page	1 5 0
One-Eighth Page	0 15 0	One-Eighth Page	0 12 6

Pages of Three Columns.

For One Insertion—	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Column	1 15 0	Whole Column	1 8 0
Half Column	0 18 0	Half Column	0 15 0
Quarter Column	0 10 0	Quarter Column	0 8 6
One Inch	0 5 0	One Inch	0 3 6

TERMS:—Strictly Cash with Order.

Printed for the Proprietors, HARRY HILCKES & Co., LIMITED, by Messrs PARDY & SON, Philatelic Printers, 8, The Triangle, Bournemouth, and Published at 64, Cheapside, London.

ONE PENNY
POSTAGE
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY.
AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1895.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

Class a—Superb condition, if unused with gum, (mint state), if used, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

Continued from page 17.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
<i>The London Philatelic Company's Sale, April 8, 1895.</i>		
<i>(continued.)</i>		
c	Nova Scotia, 6d. dark green	0 18 0
b	Oldenburg, 3grs., yellow on white	0 17 0
a	Portuguese Indies, 1st type, 1½reis black, 33 lines in background	3 3 0
a	Another specimen	1 3 0
b	Tuscany, 1 soldi, yellow on blue	1 1 0
b	United States (1869), 30c., strip of 3	1 10 0
b	(1869) 90c., pair	4 4 0
b	Victoria, 3d. blue, wmk. words, vertical unused pair	1 1 0
c	5/- blue on yellow	0 13 0
<i>Mr. W. HADLOW'S Sale, April 5th, 1895.</i>		
b	Basle, 2½rp., black postmark	4 17 0
a	British Guiana, 1c. black on purple, entire unused sheet of 12 types	1 6 0
b	2c. black on yellow, shaded pearls border, roulettes showing two sides	2 15 0
a	Brunswick, 1sgr., black on yellow, <i>percé en scie</i>	3 15 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, 1s. emerald green	0 16 0
b	Ceylon, 9d., imperf., very slight margins	1 8 0
b	5c. on 24c. plum	1 6 0
a	Faridkot, on 6a. Indian, unused, error, ARIDKOT	0 15 0
a	Guatemala, 2 centavos, unused, bird inverted	0 16 0
b	Madeira, 1st issue, 80 reis., imperf., unused	0 10 0
a	ditto 20 reis.	0 10 0
c	Mauritius, 2d. Greek border, unused, but spotted	0 16 0
c	1d. post paid, medium state, unused with gum, but cut into at bottom	1 14 0
a	Nevis, 1/- perf. 13	1 12 6
b	Newfoundland, 6½d. lake, used, large margins but heavy postmark	1 2 0
a	New South Wales, 2d. Sydney, horizontal network	1 6 0
b-c	ditto six specimens averaged each	0 13 6
b	Registered carmine and blue on entire	0 14 0
b	Large square 8d. imperf., two copies, 10/- and	0 17 0
c	ditto, another finer, but cut into on left side	1 10 0
c	New Zealand, 1st issue, 1/-, no margins	1 3 0
b	1/-, wmk. N.Z., rouletted	0 16 0
a	Portuguese Indies, 1st issue, 20r., red on original	4 0 0
b	Queensland, 2d., perf. 9½ by 12, two specimens	0 10 0
a	6d. emerald-green, no wmk., 6 specimens	0 15 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
b	Saxony, 1st. issue, 3 pf.	4 17 6
a	South Australia, Departmentals, R.B. on 1d. perf. x roulette, pair	1 10 0
b	E. on rouletted 2d., (first type) in red	0 12 0
a	A. on 4d., perf. 12 x 11½	1 1 0
b	L.C. on rouletted 2d., (first type), without final stop	0 9 0
One a)	1st issue, imperf. pair 1d., yellow-green	1 15 0
One c)	ditto, ditto, 1d. green, on piece of original	2 6 0
One a)	ditto, ditto, 1d. dark green ditto	1 14 0
One c)	ditto, ditto, 1d. dark green ditto	1 14 0
b	Tasmania, 1st issue, 4d. on original	0 8 0
a	Sheet of 120 4d. small type in dark blue on card. (? proofs or reprints)	3 6 0
a	2½d. on 9d. light blue, imperf., used on entire	1 12 0
a	4d. on 1d. entire, unused pane of 60	0 12 0
a	2½d. on 9d. light blue, do. do.	0 18 0
a	ditto, ditto, block of 4, surcharged twice, once inverted, unused	1 2 0
a	ditto, ditto, pair, used on piece of original	1 7 0
b	United States, periodicals, 19 92c. unused, no gum	0 10 0
	5c. mustard, pencancelled	0 13 0
b	Victoria, emblems, vertical pair of 1d. green, no wmk., rouletted	0 10 0
a	ditto, ditto, horizontal pair, ditto	0 14 0
a	1 6 blue, unused, 8 copies (block of 4 and two pairs)	3 5 0
c	Western Australia, 1st issue, 1/- rouletted, roulettes showing 2 sides	1 0 0
c	Württemberg, 1st issue, 18kr., mended at side	0 14 0
c	18kr. orange, rouletted, corner damaged	1 4 0
b	Zurich, 6 rappen, horizontal lines	1 5 0
c	Another specimen on original	0 16 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, April 18 and 19, 1895.

c	Austria, yellow "mercury" creased	0 18 0
b	Bahamas, 4d. rose, no wmk., perf. 14½, unused	4 10 0
a	Barbados, 5s. rose	1 6 0
a	Bermuda, 3d. on 1d., unused and original gum	2 6 0
a	1 - green, perf. 14 by 12½, three blocks of 4 unused	1 3 0
a	Bolivia, 50c. yellow, postmarked, 15/- and	0 16 0
b	Another	0 9 0
a	ditto, 20 unused together	1 0 0
a	ditto, an entire unused plate of 30	4 0 0
b	5c. green (2nd period) 24 unused	1 0 0
b	ditto, ditto, 20 postmarked	2 10 0
b	ditto (3rd period) 14 postmarked	1 14 0
b	ditto (5th period, 3rd retouch) 11 postmarked	1 6 0
b	ditto (4th period) unused plate of 72	0 16 0
a	ditto, unused blocks of 48 and 36	1 2 0
b	ditto, 5c. lilac, 2 postmarked specimens	1 5 0
b	ditto, 10c. brown, 2 unused specimens	1 0 0
c	Brazil, slanting figures, 180 reis mended	0 11 0
	ditto, 600 reis	2 8 0
c	430 reis, yellow, unused, with gum	1 2 0
a	British East Africa, 1 anna on 3 annas, surcharged in pen and ink, pair with 2½ annas stamp on entire, two lots each	3 0 0
c	British Guiana, 1st issue, circular 12c. black on blue, cut to shape	6 0 0
b	1860, 1c. dark brown, unused, with gum	2 4 0
c	1862, 2c. black on yellow, border of pearls, No. 13	4 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	British South Africa, ½d. on 6d., six unused	..	0	17 0
a	8d. on 1/-, four unused .. ..	..	1	10 0
b	Canada, 7½ green, .. £2 2s., £1 12s. and	2	0	0
b	Another, pen-cancelled	1	1	0
c	Two £1 and	0	15	0
b	Cape of Good Hope, 1d., wood block ..	2	4	0
c	Another, slightly torn	1	10	0
b	4d. light blue	1	7	0
a	Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf.	10	0	0
c	Another, cut close	4	0	0
c	9d. violet-brown, imperf.	2	4	0
c	Another, little skinned at back	1	16	0
b	1s. 9d. green, imperf.	1	18	0
c	Another	1	12	0
a	8d. brown, perforated	3	6	0
c	8d. yellow-brown, perforated, corner weak	2	15	0
a	9d. brown, no wmk.	0	18	0
a	5d. brown, wmk. Crown CC.	1	4	0
c	Columbia, 1861, 2½c. black	0	16	0
b	Another, pen-cancelled	0	18	0
b	Finland, error, 10 pen. brown on lilac, unused	2	6	0
b	France, 1863-70, 4c. grey, tête-beche pair ..	0	10	0
b	1867, 5fcs. with value in blue and an ordinary spec..	0	5	0
a	Great Britain, 1d. black, strip of 3, unused	1	8	0
c	2d. blue, no lines, unused	0	16	0
a	10d. brown, plate 3, unused, with gum	2	2	0
b	2d. blue, wmk. small crown, perf. 16, unused	1	12	0
b	ditto, wmk. large crown, perf. 14, ditto, vertical pair	1	16	0
b	4d. rose on bluish, wmk. small garter, unused	3	10	0
c	9d. bistre with hair lines, damaged and heavy pmk...	2	10	0
c	9d. bistre, wmk. emblems, plate 4, unused..	1	2	0
b	2/- brown £1 7s and	1	9	0
b	Another, unused and part gum	3	0	0
a	8d. orange-yellow, "Specimen," imperf., 5 averaged	0	7	10
a	5/-, perf. 12, "Specimen"	1	16	0
a	Hamburg, 4sch. green imperf.	1	12	0
a	Another	1	8	0
b	Hanover, 10gr. unused, small margins	1	16	0
a	Another, used	2	6	0
a	Japan, 1st issue, 100 mons. blue on laid, entire sheet	1	12	0
	of 40	1	12	0
	One or two c) 2nd issue, ½sen, brown on laid, perf.			
	Rest a | entire sheet of 40	1	4	0
a	1872, 2 sen, orange-vermilion, blocks of 10 and 6 ..	1	10	0
a	Twigs crossed, 1 sen, brown, unused, £1 15s. and	1	12	0
a	Another, used	1	0	0
a	Branches tied, 1 sen, brown, entire unused sheet of 40	1	4	0
c	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. vermilion, early state, cut			
	close	3	0	0
c	ditto, 1d. red, worn plate	0	13	0
c	Greek border, 1d. red, cut close	1	1	0
c	ditto, 2d. blue	1	2	0
b	Moldavia, 80 paras on bluish	0	12	0
a	Montserrat, 4d. blue, wmk. Crown CA.	4	15	0
a	Naples, ½-tornese blue, cross, 4 on entire, original,			
	reserve £12	22	0	0
a	A single on piece of original	3	17	6
a	50gr. lake	2	0	0
c	Another	1	10	0
b	Natal, 1st issue, 1d. rose, unused	1	5	0
a	1/- buff, 34 by 40 mm.	9	0	0
a	Nevis, 4d. rose on bluish, unused	4	0	0
a	6d. grey on bluish	2	2	0
a	6d. grey	1	10	0
b	6d. grey on yellowish, unused	1	7	6
a	1/- green on bluish	1	5	0
b	1/- green on greyish, 2 averaged	1	0	0
b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow, no margins	1	10	0
b	1/- founde, no margins	10	0	0
b	Newfoundland, 4d. orange-vermilion	2	0	0
a	6d. orange-vermilion	2	0	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1	2	7	6
b	ditto, plate 2	0	17	0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 1, 2 averaged	1	15	0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 2	1	0	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
b	New South Wales, 2d., plate 3	0	14	0
a	ditto, 3d., very fine	4	4	0
c	Laureated, 6d. brown, pair	1	2	0
c	ditto, 8d. orange	1	8	0
c	Another, with tear	0	14	0
b	Diadem, 3d. green, imperf., pair	1	0	0
b	ditto, 5d. green, imperf., 3 averaged	1	11	0
b	ditto, 6d. brown, wmk. 8, 6 copies	1	8	0
b	ditto, 8d. orange	0	10	0
b	New Zealand, 2d. blue, thick paper, perf., 3 averaged	0	10	0
b	1/- green, pelure, perf. vertically only	1	0	0
b	Nova Scotia, 6d. dark green	1	2	0
b	1/- violet	14	10	0
a	Oil Rivers, Half Penny (italics) in red on 2½d. blue, a			
	strip of 4, unused	2	2	0
a	ditto (capitals) in violet, similar strip	3	0	0
a	ditto, ditto, in red ditto	2	8	0
a	ditto, ditto, in green ditto	3	0	0
a	ditto, ditto, in violet on 2d. green and carmine, similar			
	strip	3	0	0
a	ditto (italics), in violet on 2d. ditto	3	15	0
a	One Shilling in red on 2d., green and carmine, un-			
	used pair	2	5	0
a	ditto in violet on ditto, unused pair	2	0	0
c	Oldenburg, 2nd issue, ½gr. green	2	8	0
b	3rd issue, ½gr. yellow	2	15	0
a	ditto, ½gr. green	1	16	0
b	ditto, ½gr. light green, unused, cut close	1	10	0
b	Philippines, 1st issue, 1 real, unused	0	17	0
b	Queensland, 2d. blue, imperf., on letter sheet	2	10	0
b	1/- dark violet, large star, unused	1	18	0
b	1/- grey-brown, truncated star, unused	0	14	0
b	Russia, 7 roubles, black and orange, thunderbolts	1	12	0
c	Saxony, 3pf. red	3	15	0
b	South Australia, 1d. green, imperf., strip of four	4	0	0
b & c	1/- orange, pair imperf.	2	14	0
a	1/- orange	2	0	0
b	9d. grey, perf. and roul., on piece of original	2	15	0
b	4d. perf. and roul.	1	0	0
a	3d. red and blue, unevenly centred	1	0	0
a	O.S. on 8d. yellow-brown, unused	2	5	0
b	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto, unused	1	6	0
a	Switzerland, Basle, 2½ rappen	4	4	0
c	Another, damaged	1	10	0
a	Zurich, 6 rappen	1	5	0
c	Tasmania, 1d. blue, cut close	1	2	0
c	1d. red, wmk. 2, penmark	1	0	0
a	(1855), ½d. orange, imperf., block of 8, unused	0	16	0
a	ditto, 1d. carmine, ditto, ditto	0	17	0
c	Trinidad, Lady McLeod damaged, uncanceled, on			
	entire	5	0	0
b	1d. violet-brown on bluish, on entire	0	16	0
c	Lithograph, 1d. grey-blue, vertical pair	1	12	0
c	ditto, 1d. light blue, on piece of original	1	6	0
a	1 - indigo, imperf., pair on piece of original	3	10	0
a	A single specimen	0	13	0
a	½d. mauve and black, C.A.	0	15	0
c	Another	0	7	0
a	Turks Islands, (1893) ½d. on 4d. black and grey,			
	unused pair	2	10	0
a	A single specimen	1	0	0
a	Tuscany, 60 crazie, red, fine	8	12	6
b	United States, (1855) 90c. blue	2	15	0
c	(1858) 90c. blue, grill	1	12	0
b	(1869) 90c. red and black	1	16	0
c	Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow, cut 3 sides	0	17	0
c	Registered, roulette (on one side)	0	11	0
c	Another (on two sides)	0	11	0
c	Western Australia, 1st issue, 2d. brown on red, tear	1	5	0
b	ditto, 4d. blue, block of 4 unused	2	2	0
a	ditto, 6d. bronze	3	0	0
c	ditto, 2 others averaged	1	0	0
b	ditto, 1/- brown, block of 4 unused	3	0	0
b	ditto, 4d. blue, roulette on 3 sides	1	10	0

(To be continued).

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 St. Vincent, 1/- blue and 1/- brown
 New South Wales, Sidney Views and laureated issues, including 3d. error "Waces"
 Tasmania, 1d. blue
 Victoria, too late
 Oldenburg, 1858, 2gr., used and unused, and 1860 3gr. unused and others

Saxony, 10ng., unused
 Basle, 2½kgs. used
 Naples, 50gr.
 Tuscany, 50 crazie and 1 soldo
 Wurtemberg, 18kr., various issues
 Ceylon, 4d. star, perf. and 1/9. very fine C. C. 4d., 8d. and 9d. unused
 Hong Kong, 96 cents, yellow brown
 Natal, 1st issue complete
 United States, 1855, 30 and 90 cents, unused
 Columbus complete, and a great number of other rarities, including Periodicals and Departmentals
 Argentine Republic, 1864, imperf.
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40 PARAS LEVANT.

A MEETING was held on Thursday the 25th April, when Mr. Hilckes read a paper on the Provisional "40 Paras" surcharged on 4d. English, which is published in another column. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Joselin, and seconded by Mr. Thompson.

EXCHANGE PACKET.

The February packet has been returned; all sheets have been delivered to members together with the account. It is of the utmost importance that the amounts due to the packet should be paid at once.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *The Stamp Collector's Journal*.

From the United States: *The American Journal of Philately*, *The Metropolitan Philatelist*, *The Philatelic Journal of America* and *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*, Nos. 1, 2 and 3.

Auction Catalogues from Messrs. Ventom, Bull and Cooper and The London Philatelic Co.

A list of works on philately in the Library will in future be published from time to time, and the Librarian will be pleased to send any of them to members on receipt of request with return postage.

- No. 1. "A Complete Priced Catalogue of the Postal and Telegraph Adhesives of Great Britain." H. Hilckes & Co. (presented by the publishers).
- No. 2. "Catalogue Illustré de tous les Timbres-Poste." par Victor Robert (presented by the publisher, Victor Robert, Paris).
- No. 3. "The Stamps of Canada" (presented by the publisher, H. F. Ketcheson, Belleville, Ont.)
- No. 4. "Minor Varieties" (presented by the publisher, H. Gremmel, New York).
- No. 5. "The Stamps of Sweden," by Sven Lindhé (presented by the publisher, S. A. Wood, Hanley).
- No. 6. "Priced Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Great Britain," by H. L'Estrange Ewen, 1st Edition, 1893.
- No. 7. Ditto ditto 2nd Edition, 1894.
- No. 8. Ditto ditto 3rd Edition, 1895. (presented by the publisher).
- No. 9. "A Descriptive Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Great Britain" (illustrated), by W. A. S. Westoby (presented by H. L'Estrange Ewen).

(To be continued).

The books must be kept clean and returned within 14 days, otherwise borrowers will be held responsible.

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of the members at our meetings every Thursday, at Cossavella's, 121, Cheapside, E.C. No meeting on March 28th.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP,

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

No reports to hand on going to press.

EDINBURGH AND LEITH SOCIETY.

At a meeting held on Monday, April 22nd, 1895, in the Hotel Metropole, Edinburgh, present: Mr. Schuepel, president (in the chair); Messrs. Kuhu, Rilter, Fleming, Siems, Klein, Bastock, and Huel. Mr. J. Mackay, 34, Frederick Street, Edinburgh, was elected a member, and the accounts of the Exchange Packet for April were presented and settled. It being the first packet, only two sheets were included, value £1 4s. 6d., from which stamps value 9/9 were taken. Stamps from Messrs. Winch, and Fisher Titty were shown.

The following motion was passed:—"The Edinburgh and Leith Philatelic Society desires to add their vote at the meeting to be held on May 6th, 1895, against the so-called speculative issues, and desire that means be taken whereby the increase of such be put a stop to."

SCARBOROUGH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

On April 17th, a meeting of this society was held at the Albemarle Hotel, the vice-president, Mr. E. Clark, occupying the chair. The subject discussed during the evening was the stamps of the Straits Settlements, and several members exhibited their collections.

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[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 6d for three lines of six words. For every extra line of eight words, 2d.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

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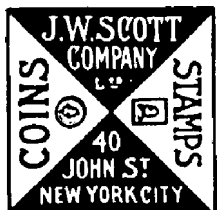
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PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 17.—Vol. I. SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1895. ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

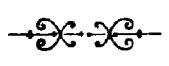
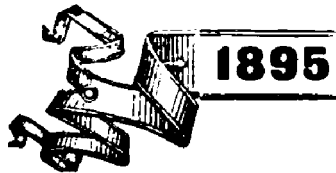
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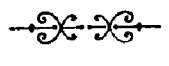
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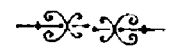
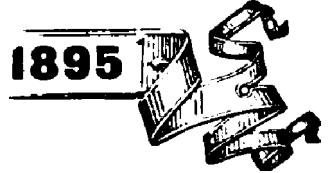
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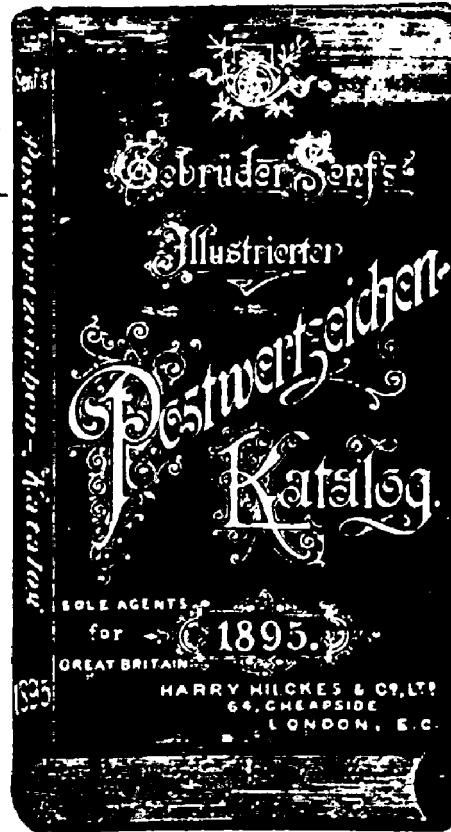
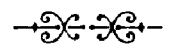
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We beg particularly to point out that Messrs. SENE wish their Catalogue to be sold at an uniform rate all over the World. Copies are therefore supplied on the express understanding that the above Retail Price is on no account to be departed from. Agents who do not comply with this rule, will on no account receive any further supplies.

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DATES OF SALE, 1895.

May 23 and 24

| June 13.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, In announcing their Future Dates, beg to draw attention to the following Important Sales:—

May 23 & 24.—A fine selection, including Great Britain, 2/-, brown, an unused pair, a fine block of four 6d. oct., violet, unused, with gum, I. R. officials, 5/-, 10/-, and £1. Oldenburg, 2nd issue, ½ gr., unused, with gum, superb. Basle, 2½r., unused. Winterthur, 2½r., unused. Naples, 50 gr., unused. Portugal, 1st issue, 100r., a pair. Spain, 1st issue, unused and used, 1851, 2 rls., unused, 1852, 2 rls., 1853, 2 rls., unused, 1854, 1 rls., light blue, very fine, 12 cts. imperf., with inverted centre. Ceylon, 8d. imperf., fine. Wurtemberg, nearly complete. Canada, 6d. green, 1c. on laid. British Guiana, 2c., with border of grapes, superb. Nevis, 4d. rose, unused. India, 4 as., red and blue, a fine pair, with dividing lines, and showing six rosettes. Newfoundland, 6d. carmine. Mauritius, the large fillet. Natal, 1st issue, half 6d. green, used as 3d. on piece of original. Mexico, 1863, 2 rls., used on letter, and a very fine lot of guadalajaras, gothic surcharges, &c. Pacific Steam Navigation Co., 1 rl., blue, used. Queensland, a pair of 6d. green, imperf. Sandwich Islands, a fine lot, including early issues. Victoria, 6d. orange, beaded oval, fine, and many others, also a few collections.

June 13.—A fine selection, including Great Britain, no lines, 2d. blue, a pair, unused; octagonal 6d., a block of 4, and 1/- green, unused; 2/- brown, fine; perf. 14, large crown, 2d. blue, unused, a block of 4; 3d. rose, imperf., unused, a pair with secret mark, and 1/- with hair lines, imperf. Spain, 19 ctos., rose and brown, an unused pair, with gum. Italy, 2nd issue, 40c. red, strips on entire original envelopes. Ceylon, 1/9 and 2/-, and a fine lot of 6d. and 1/-, all imperf., and unused pence issues. India Service, 2 annas, fine. Trinidad, 1st issue, a fine lot, lithographed, fine impression, 1d. blue, superb, coarse ditto, 1d. grey, a pair. St. Vincent, provl., 1d. on half 6d., a fine unused pair. Barbados, 1d. on half 5-. Nevis, 4d. rose, 6d. and 1/-, and 1/- lithographed, unused strip of three imperf., between, very fine. Tobago, C and CC., 6d. ochre. British Guiana, provisional 2d. black and yellow. British Colombia, 25c. imperf., vertically. Newfoundland, 6½d. carmine. Nova Scotia, 1/- Canada, 6d. green. Vancouver Islands, 5c. rose, imperf. New Brunswick, 6d. yellow, unused, torn. Tasmania, 1d. blue. New South Wales, Sydney View, plate II., 1d. red, unused, with gum, and others, also a few collections.

It is particularly requested that Owners desirous of obtaining Special Days of Sale, should communicate as early as possible, in order that due publicity may be given. Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, they have decided to issue them, in all cases where practicable, at least one month before the date of Sale. In order to enable them to carry out this arrangement, Owners intending to include Stamps, should forward them at the earliest possible moment.

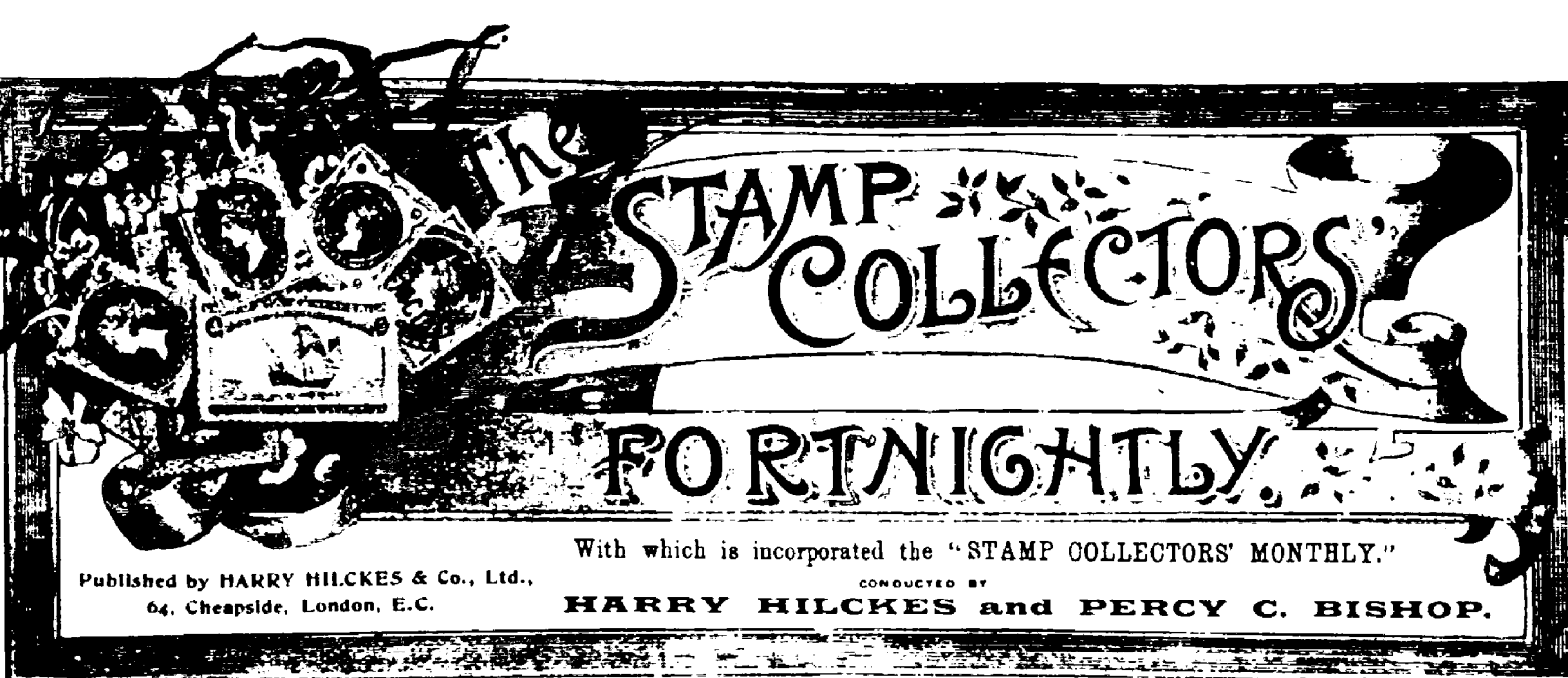
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CONDUCTED BY
HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
The Edinburgh Philatello Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.

No. 17.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	137
Gumpapper's Soliloquy	137
The Plating of Nevis	138
Philately at Home	138
City of London Philatelic Club	139
Between Ourselves	140
Anti-Gumpap League	141
Secret Marks of Switzerland	142
English Stamps Used Abroad	143
Our Forum	143
Answers to Correspondents	144
Philatelic Events	144

Philatelic Personalities.

A MR. T. T. PATTERSON has recently been on a visit to England from the Colonies, and the nature of his business here makes his visit interesting to philatelists. Mr. Patterson, who by the way, holds a position in the Treasury Department of Queensland, recently discovered a simple process by which the stamps and revenue paper of the Government could not be imitated, and he was forthwith despatched to England to superintend the designing and printing of new issues which should baffle the efforts of the cleverest forger to reproduce. Mr. Patterson is now nearly through with his work, and it will be interesting to note the changes that are introduced in Queensland Stamps in the near future.

MR. GIWELB will not open a shop in the Strand, as was at first announced, but offices on the first floor at No. 88.

MENDIL HOWARD, the American scientific investigator, who is charged with forging U.S. Stamps, is a slim-built man of medium height, and of refined appearance. A short pointed beard covers his chin, and his eyes have the deep, thoughtful look of the man who thinks much.

MR. GORDON SMITH, who will act as Hon. Secretary of the new Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps, is a philatelist whose name is better known, perhaps, to readers


of the *Stamp News* than to any other section of the philatelic world. He is young, genial, and handsome; and it says big books for his popularity that after his name was suggested as a likely secretary for the "S.S.S.S.," no one thought of looking further afield for the right man.

The Gumpapper's Soliloquy.

With the most humble apologies to Mr. Hamlet.

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

TO be, or not to be,—that is the question:—
Whether 'tis wiser in the man to barter
The shams and bogies of outrageous swindles,
Or to take up arms against the horde of schemers
And, by opposing, end them?—To list,—to sell,—
No more;—and, by a word, to say we end
The bogie and the thousand shameless shams
That stamps are heir to,—'tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wished. To end;—to spurn,—
To spurn! Perchance to damn;—ay, there's the rub;
For, in spurning shams what doubts may come,
When we have shuffled off these bogie stamps,
Must give us pause; there's the profit
That makes those Seebecks so welcome yet;
For who would live on crusts and kippers,
On school-boys' pence, the specialist's contumely
The endless, hopeless search for rarities,
The spurned, returned approval book,
That patient dealer of the collector takes
When he himself might his quietus make
With a wide roulette? Who would snarlings bear
To fake and hinge under a weary life
But that the dread of something after stamps,—
That stampless region, from whose bourn
No faker e'er returns,—puzzles the will,
And makes us rather sell the shams we have
Than join a boycott that we know naught of.

Has your friend Jones seen this paper? If not, 

On Plating Nevis.

BY WALTER T. WILLETT.

[We have prepared a card with photographs of the 4 entire plates (which necessarily show up the various prints much more distinctly). They can be obtained from our Publishers, together with a reprint of this article for 2/6 post free.]

THE first issues of Nevis were printed by Messrs. Parker & Nissen, London. The set consists of four values, 1d., 4d., 6d., and 1/- In each case the sheet contains 12 stamps arranged in four rows of three, and each stamp having been engraved separately, necessarily differs from the others. It is with regard to reconstructing these sheets from single specimens that we propose to deal. The task of plating Nevis should not be a hard one, the sheets are small, and the differences are clearly defined. In order to abbreviate explanations as far as possible, we will say "N.E. corner," instead of the "upper right hand corner," and so on.

THE ONE PENNY.

In the four corners of the one penny are stars with a straight line above or below them, and running down the sides of the stamp between the stars are intersecting loops composed of four wavy lines; the best method for determining the position of any stamp on the plate is to compare the way in which the loops meet the lines above or below the stars. Take for instance the S.W. corner of type I., the outer line of the loop meets the line above the star nearly at the N.E. end, compare this with the S.W. corner of type II., where the outer line of the loop meets the line above the star, almost at the other end. Compare also the N.W. corners of types I., IV., VII. and X. The outer line of the loop in type I. meets the line below the star a little to the right of the centre, in types IV., VII., X., it gets more and more to the left hand corner. There are no special variations in this value to indicate at once the position of any particular type, but a careful study of the plate will reveal the fact that the corners as explained above, vary enormously, and with a little practice no trouble will be found in assigning any specimen to its right position.



THE FOUR PENCE.

One type of this value can be recognised at once. Type V is the only stamp on the sheet in which the hill to the right of the central design is in a straight unbroken line. The formation of the hills in the other stamps also affords some guide. For the rest we must examine the spandrels. These are filled in with reticulations, which vary considerably. The differences are clearly shown in the accompanying block taken from an entire sheet of the original stamps. In typing them a magnifying glass will be found of great use.



To be continued.)

Philately At Home.

MORE "GEMS" FOR THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

RECENTLY the stamps in the cases allotted to the Taping Collection of Stamps at the British Museum have been once more changed. The countries now shown are: British Guiana (latter part), British Honduras, Dominica, Falkland Islands, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, Nevis, Royal Mail Co., St. Christopher, and St. Lucia. By the way, from the latest list of presentations to the Taping Collection, we glean that Mr. William Brown, of Salisbury, has donated a complete set of the gummed and printed labels supplied to him by the Nyassa Company. We hope they will duly find their way into the frames allotted to the collection. They are interesting as souvenirs of a swindle, and valuable as a warning to unwary philatelists.

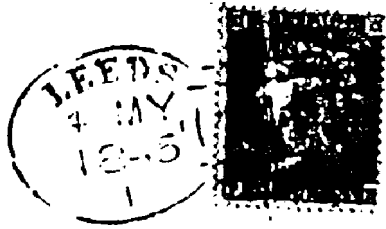
ARE YOU INSURED?

A new branch has been added to that ever-widening field of industry—insurance. Stamp collections and the stocks of stamp dealers are now being insured as quite an every-day occurrence. In proof of this Mr. Phillips mentions in *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* that a certain member of "Lloyd's" has specially taken up this class of insurance. We may state that our publishers are insured not only against fire, but also against theft, although they had considerable trouble in inducing a company to accept such a curious "risk."

Send us his address and we will gladly post him a specimen copy.

EARLY DATES ON ENGLISH STAMPS.

ALTHOUGH the perforation machine of Mr. F. Archer was only invented in or about 1850, and officially perforated stamps issued early in 1854, we have seen a copy (as per illustration)



of an English 1d. stamp postmarked 1854.—Obviously this is a case of cart before the horse, *i.e.*, the last two figures are simply transposed through the carelessness of the respective clerk. We only mention this case to show how very dangerous it is to place absolute reliance in postmarked copies. It is circumstantial evidence only which requires corroboration before such evidence can be passed. Instances are known where the stamp is obliterated in, say 1854, and arrived as per postmark on back in 1845!

A NEW PERFORATION GAUGE.

MR. K. KOSING, of Amsterdam, has sent us a copy of his new perforation gauge which, however, although very neat and compact, is, in our opinion, no improvement on the "Ideal," as designed by Mr. William Brown. In the first place it is printed on both sides. This is a great objection, for instance, if you wish to measure $12\frac{1}{2} \times 14$, you have to turn the gauge over. One reason why we cannot recommend this gauge is the fact that it is printed from a lithographic transfer, a process which endangers the correctness of the measurements. And, after all, *that* is the principal thing.

OUR DILATORY AUCTIONEERS.

It is a great pity that auctioneers cannot see their way to publish their catalogues about a month previous to the sale. It is not necessary to mention names, but in many cases lately our publishers have not received sale catalogues till two days before the event. This is a hardship for those who make it their business to circulate the catalogues among their customers with a view of getting orders for the sales. If the auctioneer would only think the matter out he would see that it is distinctly his interest to assist the "broker" wherever he can.

U.S. STAMPS FORCED AND USED FOR POSTAGE.

THERE has lately been arrested in London an American citizen, one Mendil Howard, aged 46, who describes himself as a scientific investigator. If there be truth in the charges against him, Mendil Howard's "scientific investigations" have been such as to bring him within the pale of the law. He is charged with forging bonds, bills and United States postage stamps! That U.S. stamps have been forged in great quantities lately, and that the spurious stamps have paid postage, are facts which do not admit of dispute. The point now is to decide the guilt or innocence of Mendil Howard, who is in custody under the remand of Magistrate De Rutzen, of Westminster Police Court.

The story of the fraud laid to Mendil Howard's charge reads almost like romance. Nothing was discovered until two months ago, and the swindle had then been proceeding for some time. It first came into notice by advertisements from a so-called agency in Niagara Falls, on the Canadian shore, offering to sell United States stamps at an appreciable discount. The agency did a thriving business, and extended its advertising. Commercial firms carrying on a large correspondence, banks and public institutions, and a large number of postmasters in the United States, who were enabled to purchase stamps cheaper than from the Government, were among the best customers of the agency. The fraud was at length discovered by a retail dealer selling stamps to the members of the Chicago Chamber of Commerce. He saw an advertisement offering 115 dols. worth of stamps for 100 dols. He accepted the stamps, and said he would take all they could supply to him at that price. When his stamps

were delivered he found from the railway people that four other large parcels had been delivered to stamp dealers in Chicago. He knew that no such wholesale trade could be legitimate. He closely inspected the stamps, and the investigation confirmed his suspicions. The police were communicated with, and a reference to the railway company placed them upon the track of the chief buyers. They were enabled to seize over 28,000 forged stamps in one day alone, but the premature publication of the fraud enabled the originators of the scheme in Canada to get clear away.

THE MICROBE IN PHILATELY.

It seems we are in constant danger, we poor philatelists, of collecting microbes as well as stamps. The *British Medical Journal*, a stately organ which never permits itself to "frivolous," tells us that stamp collecting is not quite the "harmless mania" (*sic*) it would appear to be. There is, it seems, a disgusting disease of the hair, known as *pie-dra*, hitherto considered to be peculiar to Colombia, in South America. The disease is supposed to be connected with a mucilaginous substance which is greatly in favour with the native beauties. Now, a certain Dr. Unna has satisfied himself that this interesting complaint can be conveyed to Europe by means of postage stamps. He has recently had under his care a professional brother whose beard was unquestionably affected with *pie-dra*. The patient had never been near Colombia, but it turned out that he often received letters from that country, and was in the habit of detaching the stamps by soaking them in water. Dr. Unna conjectures that he may have inoculated himself with the disease while fiddling with his beard, with fingers still wet with the water in which he had soaked the stamps. The theory appears to involve the hypothesis that the "mucilaginous substance" which is suspected of breeding the disease is used in Colombia for gumming stamps. This is terrible. Gumpaps, gummicrobes, — what next we wonder!

NEWSPAPER TAX STAMPS, 1850.

MR. WALTER MORLEY, in his exhaustive work on English fiscals enumerates the above, but as it appears from a letter of one of our correspondents, the following should have been included:—

Additional List of Newspaper Tax stamps, 1d., with name of different Newspapers at the sides, 1850:—Allen's Indian Mail, Berrow's Worcester Journal, British Medical Journal, English Churchman, Eskdale and Lidderdale Advertiser, Express, Gardener's Chronicle, The Graphic, (an illustrated weekly,) Household Words, John Bull, Kendal Mercury, Lynn Advertiser, Magnet, Manchester Examiner and Times, Midland Counties Herald, Morning Post, Newcastle Chronicle, The Scotsman, Homeward Mail.

**City of London Philatelic Club.****LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.**

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Monthly Journal*, *The Philatelic Record*, *The Stamp News*, *The Philatelic Advertiser*, *A. Smith & Son's Monthly Circular*, *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, and *Monthly Offers*.

From the United States: *The Philatelic Journal of America*, *Philatelic Facts and Fancies*, *The Metropolitan Philatelist*, *The Post Office*, *The Pennsylvania Philatelist*, *The American Philatelic Magazine*, *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*, and *The Evergreen State Philatelist*.

From France: *L'Annuaire Timbrologique*, *Le Timbrophile Poitevin*.

From India: *The Indian Philatelist* and *The Indian Postage Stamp News*.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C. (No Meeting on May 23rd.)

Advertisers! Remember, from 3,000 to 4,000 Philatelists read every issue of the FORTNIGHTLY.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

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The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MAY 18, 1895.

.. Between Ourselves ..

Out of our anti-gumpap agitation, and out of the growing feeling against issues of stamps brought out more for sale to collectors than to supply general postal needs, has grown the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps. The Society is still in its infancy; it has not yet cut its teeth, or at any rate has not yet framed its rules or mapped out its plan of campaign. Still the "S.S.S.S." is an accomplished fact—a fact upon which we may all congratulate ourselves. There will necessarily be divergent views as to how the Suppression Society is going to "suppress," but this is matter for discussion by the large committee of dealers and journalists appointed at the meeting reported elsewhere. Many of the suggestions made in our last issue have evidently received the earnest consideration of those who have come forward as volunteers in what Mr. Castle has aptly called "The New Crusade."

We recommended a committee of thirty; the committee, as elected, comprises twenty-six members and of these a goodly sprinkling are collectors. One point yet to be settled has called forth animated discussion. Shall the two committees at present existing—the Committee of the London Philatelic Society, and that of the "S.S.S.S."—act as two separate branches of the Philatelic Legislature (for that is what it comes to) or shall the two be merged into one grand joint committee? At first glance the tendency is to vote for the one grand committee,—and this is the view of a majority of the dealers—but we think there is much to be said on both sides. It will perhaps be best to await the result of a conference which is shortly to take place between the two committees in the rooms of the London Philatelic Society.

The "S.S.S.S." starts in every way under favourable auspices, and we think that we may fairly claim, now that the first blow has been struck in the anti-gumpap campaign. A big Society—for it will be a big Society in something less than no time!—supported by practically everybody who is anybody in the philatelic world cannot fail to achieve great good. Soon, let us hope, we shall be in a position to announce the first good results of the Society's activity. (P.C.B.)

* * *

ALTHOUGH we are informed that only twenty white men and a handful of niggers are living in this unfortunate Nyassa district, there is hardly a country which has agitated the philatelic mind so much during the last six months as the Nyassa territory. We are forced to the re-opening of this question by an article in the "P.J.G.B." for May. As early as on the 12th of January, 1895, we stated that the labels of the Nyassa Company were absolutely bogus.

We had reason to make this statement, and it was the duty of the Philatelic Agent of the Company to at once put himself into communication with us, asking us what particulars we had. But nothing of the sort was done. The editorial remarks of the "S.C.F." were apparently beneath the notice of the firm of Mr. Wm. Brown. On January 26th, we had occasion to publish absolutely the only truthful statement as yet put before the public, in the shape of a letter from one of the foremost philatelists of Lisbon, Mr. C. George, the Vice-Consul for the Netherlands, which letter clearly proved that the Nyassa Company absolutely knew, from the terms of their charter, that their so-called stamps could have no postal character whatever. There was a very considerable correspondence in the daily papers of Lisbon last December on this very question, and we should imagine that officials of the Nyassa Company sometimes read Portuguese daily papers, if Mr. Brown does not. Of course our communication was again treated with contempt by the firm of Mr. Wm. Brown. He even had the audacity up to the April number of his "Journal" to offer out these stamps in his Monthly List—a list which bears the heading,—“this list is most carefully revised month by month”—but to crown everything he now gives us, in his May number, an article from which the following is an extract:

In our February number we announced that in consequence of a *misunderstanding* which had arisen between the Nyassa Company and the Portuguese Government, there *was a doubt* which required clearing up as to whether the stamps issued by the Company were duly legalized by the Home Government. It has now been ascertained by the *expenditure of a considerable amount of labour* that although the Company was entirely in their right in issuing postage stamps, they failed to comply with the internal regulations of the Portuguese Government, which require that all stamps of Portugal and its colonies and dependencies should be issued directly from the Royal Mint at Lisbon. We are inclined to think that the Nyassa Company acted in good faith in this matter, and we were encouraged to hope that, as the issue of negotiations then pending between the Company and the Portuguese Government, this particular issue which was stated to have been sent out to the Company's territories for use there before this difficulty arose would be legalized. We now find that this is *not likely to be the case*, and that the *flaw in the method of the issue will not be condoned by the authorities of Lisbon*. That being so, Mr. William Brown asks those who have purchased Nyassa Stamps from him to communicate with him and return those stamps for which he will be happy to send back such sums as have been paid by them to him on this account.

We have printed in italics the remarks we particularly object to. It is ridiculous to speak of a great amount of labour and expenditure; we obtained the particulars in exchange for a 2½d. stamp, and Mr. Brown could have done the same. The issue of the Nyassa stamps are a wilful contravention of the Company's charter and, as such, could never be condoned by the Portuguese Government, unless specially sanctioned by the Cortes. There is a document in existence which, in reply to an application from the Nyassa Company, grants this permission, with the express stipulation as to colours and values, at a time when the present Nyassa stamps were already issued. The "P.J.G.B." states above that it was difficult to see how an English trader could foresee all these obstacles; well, as to that, our publishers, as English traders, had foreseen these obstacles as soon as they saw particulars of the issue. How any firm of stamp merchants can maintain that there was a necessity to issue in a savage country imperforate, perforate and provisional stamps on one and the same day is beyond our ken. It is precisely such stamps which will be the ruin of philately in a very short time if dealers are allowed to go on in this careless manner. We have used strong and plain language in these cases because we feel strongly, and we shrewdly suspect that it is mainly through our very vigorous attacks on this bogus issue that buyers of the worthless stamps are promised that their money shall be refunded. We are disappointed to find no correspondence published between Mr. Brown and the Nyassa Company, as we are of the opinion that some interesting points would arise from such a correspondence. We are, however, promised further particulars in the next number of the "P.J.G.B.," and we hope Mr. Brown will satisfy our curiosity. (H.H.)

(Continued on page 143).

The Anti-Gumpap League Formed!

TITLE:

"SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF SPECULATIVE STAMPS."

Call it the "S.S.S.S." if you're pressed for time!

(Special Official Report for the "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.")

SOMETHING has at last been done. Persistent pegging-away at the gumpap question on the part of philatelic journalists has moved the philatelic community to action. In addition to the formation of an anti-gumpap committee of the London Philatelic Society, an association has been formed, bearing the title of the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps. The first move in the matter was made at a meeting of stamp-dealers and philatelic journalists in the rooms of the London Philatelic Society, on Monday, May 6th, of which meeting the following is

AN OFFICIAL REPORT:

There were present at the meeting, the members of the Committee: Messrs. M. P. Castle (in the Chair), R. Ehrenbach, J. A. Tilleard, E. J. Nankivell, and H. R. Oldfield, and in addition Messrs. Percy C. Bishop, Theodore Buhl, F. R. Ginn, M. Giwelb, Harry Hilekes, W. H. Peckitt, C. J. Phillips, H. Stafford Smith, and D. W. Wood.

Numerous letters regretting the inability of the writers to be present at the meeting, and expressing sympathy with the movement, and promises of practical support, were read, including communications from Messrs. Butler Bros., of Oxford; Messrs. Clark & Co., of Bushey; Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., of Ipswich; Messrs. Alfred Smith & Co., of Bath; and Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham.

The Chairman, having explained the object of the meeting, moved the following Resolution

"That this meeting is of opinion that the great increase in the production of speculative stamps, for sale to Collectors, threatens to have a very serious effect on the collections of genuine postal issues throughout the world."

In the course of his remarks, Mr. Castle called attention to the strong feeling on this subject which had been expressed both in this country and abroad, and pointed out that the steps proposed to be taken were for the common good, the interests both of collectors and of dealers being identical so far as these issues were concerned.

Mr. C. J. Phillips, in seconding the resolution, referred to correspondence which had passed between Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and various leading houses representing the chief European firms of dealers and importers. The following are short extracts from the replies received by Mr. Phillips, which were of considerable length, and showed a remarkable unanimity of opinion amongst the writers as to the desirability of some steps being taken to put an end to speculative and unnecessary issues of stamps.

Messrs. Whitfield King, of Ipswich, write, "We had already on our own initiative decided some time ago not to buy or sell any more speculative issues."

Mons. J. B. Moens, of Brussels, writes, "As regards the rubbish that comes in from all quarters, and that will be death of Philately, I share your opinion that they ought not to be sold."

Mr. Senf, of the firm of Senf Bros., of Leipsic, writes, "I, too, share your doubts as to the future of Philately. I am not aware if you know that for many years past I have been of opinion that everything not unavoidably necessary should be rejected, and I have always borne this in mind when writing our postage stamp albums."

Mons. Maury, of Paris, writes, "I have always in my journal warmly spoken against these speculative stamps. . .

It would be very useful to have the assent of editors of albums that they will not provide spaces for these stamps."

The Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Ltd., of New York, write, "We think the subject worthy of serious consideration, and we certainly feel inclined to join you in the matter."

Messrs. C. H. Mekeel & Co., of St. Louis, U.S.A., write, "The future of Philately is certainly menaced by the issues of stamps continually being prepared for the benefit of collectors. . . . If four or five of the leading firms agree on a certain policy with regard to stamps of this character, we shall be glad to co-operate with them."

After some further discussion the above resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The Chairman then submitted the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Buhl, and after some discussion was carried unanimously:—

"That it is desirable to form a representative Committee of the leading dealers and importers and of the Philatelic Press in Great Britain to co-operate with the Committee of the London Philatelic Society in considering the measures to be taken to prevent the issue of unnecessary stamps and surcharges, and to warn Collectors against purchasing them."

Various matters of detail in connection with this resolution were discussed, and ultimately postponed for consideration by the two committees.

In response to questions, the Society's Committee explained the many obvious reasons which had actuated the members in suggesting the formation of separate committees, representing the "trade" and "collectors," rather than a joint committee, and it was also pointed out that consultations could be held when required, and that emergency sub-committees could be appointed, if necessary, to deal with pressing matters.

The following further resolutions were then duly considered and unanimously agreed to:—

"That it should be the duty of the two Committees to enquire into the status of all future issues, and to decide what shall be classed as unnecessary or speculative, and to arrange for public notice being given of their decision in the Philatelic Press."

(Proposed by Mr. Castle and seconded by Mr. Nankivell.)

"That the two Committees shall use their utmost efforts to secure the exclusion from all Journals, Catalogues, and Albums of all unnecessary issues."

(Proposed by Mr. Castle and seconded by Mr. Peckitt.)

"That with regard to existing issues the two Committees shall consult, and public notice shall be given of such stamps as may be agreed to be unnecessary"

(Proposed by Mr. Castle and seconded by Mr. Giwelb.)

Mr. C. J. Phillips then intimated that all members of the trade invited to or attending that meeting, together with other well-known stamp dealers and importers, would be asked to meet at the office of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391, Strand, on Friday, 10th of May, at 3 p.m., to consider the appointment of a representative committee of the trade.

The proceedings, which throughout had been most harmonious and enthusiastic, then terminated with a vote of thanks to the London Philatelic Society and its special Committee appointed to consider this subject, and to the Chairman and Hon. Secretary of such Committee.

A MEETING OF TRADE AND PRESS.

in pursuance of the object of the second resolution, was held

at the of offices Stanley Gibbons, Limited, 391, Strand, on Friday, May 10th, there being present some twenty-two gentlemen, representing the stamp trade and the philatelic press. Mr. Charles J. Phillips occupied the chair, and among others present were Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons, Major Evans, Mr. M. P. Castle and Mr. Gordon Smith. A committee of twenty-six dealers and journalists was elected.

It would perhaps serve no useful purpose to publish the names of the committee men, inasmuch as it is not at all sure that all will agree to serve. One dealer chosen to fulfil the duties of a committee member has—strange as this may seem—openly avowed his disapproval of the aims of anti-gumpappers.

Much anxious thought was expended upon the selection of a name for the association, and a vote was taken upon the rival claims of "Philatelic Association for the Suppression of Speculative Issues" and "Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps," with the result that a majority declared for the last-named title.

Mr. Gordon Smith was chosen Secretary of the Society. Some discussion took place upon the question of funds, and Mr. M. P. Castle made the very welcome announcement that he would be the first to support a suggested guarantee fund with a guarantee of fifty guineas.

For the purpose of framing the rules, &c., of the new Society, Messrs. Giwelb, Ginn, Hilckes, Phillips and Stokes were elected a sub-committee; and then, after a vote of thanks had been passed to Mr. Charles J. Phillips, for his kindness in placing a room at the disposal of the Society, the meeting broke up.

ADDRESS OF THE "S.S.S.S."

One needs only to add that all letters referring to the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps should for the present be addressed, c/o Stanley Gibbons, Limited, 391, Strand, London, W.C.

The Secret Marks of The Stamps of Switzerland—1843-1854.

[This article was first published in 1893 by A. Larich, of Munich; the author, Freiherr C. v. Girsewald has kindly revised the German work for the special benefit of the readers of the "S. C. F."]

TRANSLATED BY HARRY HILCKES.

ON March 1st, 1893, fifty years had passed since Switzerland issued her first postage stamp, and that country is the only Continental one that can look back with pride on a 50 years' postal service. The most interesting period of that half century with regard to Swiss stamps is without doubt the first decade from 1843 to 1854, during which time only a few Cantons were issuing stamps, after which followed the Federal issues. The Swiss Cantonal Stamps and their immediate successors are among the most interesting philatelic acquisitions; but although from the very first they were much sought after by collectors, yet very little was known about them. The consequence of this ignorance was that, until 1878, only very few collectors were able to distinguish a genuine stamp from a forgery, so that very many counterfeits were found in otherwise admirable collections. A good story is told of the members of a certain German Philatelic Club who were in the habit of comparing all their Swiss Cantonal Stamps with those of their President, in order to be sure of their authenticity. One fine day the President discovered that every one of his Swiss stamps were forgeries!—Our readers may imagine the disgust of the members. It is to Mr. Adolph Schultze, of Zürich, that we owe the first serious work on these stamps. He discovered the difference in the types, and, after much trouble succeeded in reconstructing the various sheets. His history of the Swiss Cantonal Stamps, published by him in 1878, was taken as a basis by all later authors who wrote on that subject. Another very useful work on Swiss Cantonal Stamps and their imitations was published three years ago in Lausanne by Mr. de Renterskiöld. Mr. Pfenninger, of St. Gall, has published a number of valuable plates containing care-

ful photographs of the stamps, and lastly a handbook, published by Mr. H. Kirchhofer, has thrown many new lights upon this dark and intricate subject.

Yet, in spite of all this good work, it is still difficult for a collector, in the presence of so many forgeries of early or late origin, to distinguish the genuine from the spurious.

In the following work we shall endeavour to give all the marks and characteristics by which a genuine stamp may be recognised. These marks consist mostly in little particularities of the design; I shall not weary the reader with a description of the numerous counterfeits. Besides these recognition marks, the cancellation stamps play a prominent part in these stamps, as they usually have been much less successfully imitated than the postage stamps themselves. The issues of the years 1843-1854 may be divided into three classes:

1. The Cantonal Stamps in use in their respective Cantons.
2. The Federal District Stamps of the transition period, in use throughout Switzerland.
3. The final issue of uniform Stamps for the whole of Switzerland.

I.—THE CANTONAL STAMPS.

A. Canton of Zurich. B. Canton of Geneva. C. Canton of Basle (city).

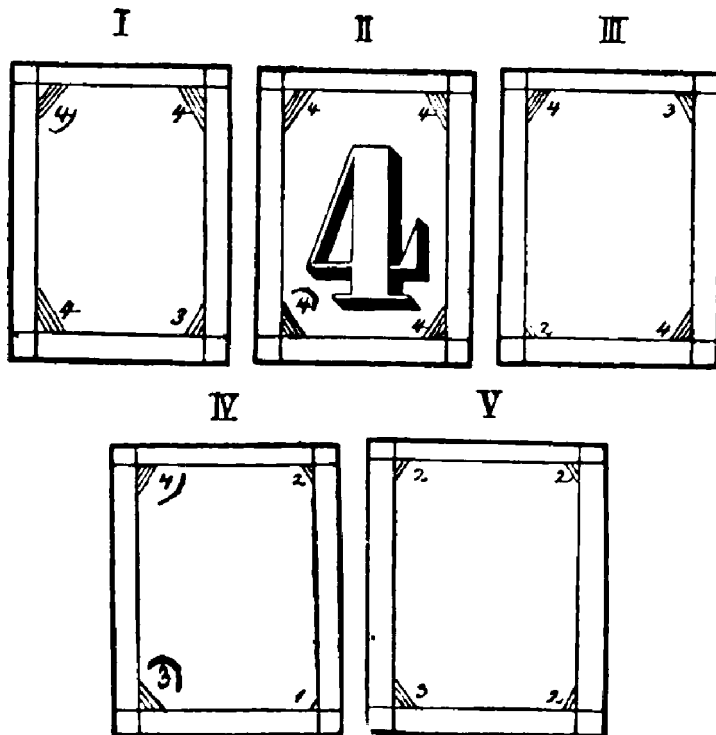
A.—CANTON OF ZURICH.

1st March, 1843.

1. 4 Rappen, (Local-Tax) five types, black.

The background of these stamps consists of groups of black lines, 4 lines making a group, the groups intersecting each other diagonally. The whole stamp moreover is surcharged with red lines running either horizontally or vertically; if counted, one will find 15 double and 15 single lines per each square centimetre. Each value was printed in double sheets of 50 stamps, 5 stamps to each horizontal row, and these 5 stamps are of 5 different types.

In order to be able to recognize the genuineness of these stamps of Zurich, which have been so extensively forged, it is necessary to be perfectly familiar with their different types; one can then decide whether his specimen belongs to one of the five genuine types or not.



The designs of the large figures and the inscriptions, especially their position with regard to the lines in the background, show differences which are not easy to distinguish. The best way to determine the genuineness of these stamps is by counting the diagonal lines which are to be found in the four corners of the inside division of the stamp.

(To be continued.)

Between Ourselves.

(Continued from page 140).

AGAIN we have to revert to this heading, owing to a leading article in the "P.J.G.B.," which has evidently been inspired by the Committee. Let it be "P.P.A." understood that we fully agree with every praise bestowed on the "P.P.A." for the work done up to the of 1892. Our article in No. 6, clearly points to the work *not* done since then. We thought we had been quite precise in our indictments accusing the "P.P.A.," or whoever may be responsible for the Committee, that no notice whatever has been taken of letters sent to them by members and non-members: it is stated now, that a large number of frauds have been stopped by action of the Committee since 1892. As our publishers have been in the trade during that precise period, and as we have never heard of any action of the "P.P.A." showing the slightest beneficial results, we beg to differ. If the Committee of the "P.P.A." wish to clear themselves, we propose that the work done should be put before a Committee of three, one of this Committee to be one of the Editors of the "S.C.F.," and each member of such Committee to be bound to consider every communication made as absolutely private and confidential. The two other members of the Committee to be prominent members of the London Society or any other influential body who are not members of the "P.P.A." If this Committee come to the conclusion that our indictment is wrong, and the "P.P.A." right, we are perfectly willing to take back everything we have stated and in addition pay a sum of 25 guineas as penalty to any charitable fund. On the other hand, if we are able to prove what we say, the "P.P.A." to pay the same penalty. We do not think the "P.P.A." will take any notice of this challenge, but it might just as well be known that we have made it.

(H.H.)

English Stamps Used Abroad.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 131.)

- C 43. Payta (Peru). 4d. orange, plate 12.
6d. violet, plate 8.
1 sh. green, plate 4 (emblems).
- C 51. St. Thomas. 1½d. rose-red, plate 3.
1d. rose-red, plates 72, 90, 93, 95, 96, 102, 106, 140, 146, 148, 150.
2d. blue, plates 9, 14.
3d. carmine, plates 4 (emblems), 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 18 (spray).
4d. orange, plates 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.
4d. vermilion, plate 15.
4d. sage, plate 15.
4d. mouse-brown, plate 17 (crown).
6d. violet, 5, 6 (emblems), 6, 8, 9 (spray).
6d. dark buff, plate 11.
6d. light buff, plates 11, 12.
6d. grey-green, plates 13, 14, 15.
9d. bistre, plates 4 (emblems), 4 (spray).
10d. pale brown.
1 sh. green, plates 4 (emblems), 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 (spray).
2 sh. blue.
2 sh. brown.
5 sh., plate 1, 2.
- C 56. Carthagena (Columbia). 6d. grey-green, plate 13.
1 sh. green, plate 4, 13 (spray).
1 sh. salmon, plate 13 (spray).

- C 57. Greytown (Nicaragua). 1½d. rose-red, plate 3.
3d. carmine, plate 20.
4d. sage, plates 15, 16.
4d. mouse-brown, plate 17 (garter), 17 (error).
1 sh. green, plate 13 (spray).
1 sh. salmon, plate 13 (crown).
2 sh. light blue.
5 sh. rose, plates 1, 2.
- C 58. Havana. 4d. orange, plates 11, 12, 13.
1 sh. green, plate 4 (emblems and spray).
2 sh. blue.
5 sh. rose, plate 1.
- C 59. Jacmel (Hayti). 1d. orange, plate 8.
4d. vermilion, plate 15.
4d. sage, plates 15, 16.
4d. mouse-brown, plate 17 (garter).
1 sh. green, plates 5, 8, 13.
2 sh. blue.
2 sh. brown.
- C 60. La Guayra. 1 sh. green, plates 9, 10, 13.
- C 61. Porto Rico. 1½d. rose red, plate 3.
3d. carmine, plates 6, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18.
4d. orange, plates 8, 9, 11, 12 (light and dark), 14.
4d. vermilion, plate 15.
6d. violet, plates 5, 6 (emblems).
6d. violet, plate 9.
9d. bistre, plate 4 (emblems).
10d. brown, plate 1.
1 sh. green, plates 4 (emblems), 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 (spray).
2 sh. blue.
5 sh. rose, plate 1.
- C 62. Sta. Martha. 1 sh. green, plate 5.

The first Packet of the Foreign Postmark Club has gone out, value £129; fifteen names are so far enrolled as members. Those who are interested in the movement will receive all particulars free on application.—H. H.

. . Our Forum. .

* * * Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

IN DEFENCE OF GUMPAUS.

DEAR SIR.—I think the time is now ripe for somebody to take up the cudgels on behalf of the much maligned, so-called gumpaus.

For some years, in partnership with a friend, I amassed a good general collection of stamps; but the time came when we agreed to divide our treasures. We had little difficulty in accomplishing this, as my friend was very keen on the British Colonials, whilst I contented myself with the South American portion. Financially, my choice was injudicious, but from an artistic point of view, I could not of chosen otherwise.

I can also console myself with the fact that when I am showing my immaculate, and in some cases truly superb copies of Nicaragua, Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica, &c., they often excite the highest admiration, even from non-collectors, who soon turn wearily away from the Colonials of my friend, with whom their conversation always runs in the same eternal groove, viz.:—prices.

The following fragment of conversation is typical of what my friend has to continually endure:—

"What! you say that blue Montserrat with the CA. watermark is worth £5. I would much rather have the

He will be the gainer and you will have lost nothing.

"money. Why on earth don't you sell it to some other fool —I beg your pardon—I mean collector?"

I trust that no amount of argument will induce people to refuse admittance to their albums of those matchless stamps in point of beauty, viz.:—the new Congo.

Trusting you will find space for this letter, and leaving the further defence of the gumpap to some abler champion of their cause.

Yours faithfully,

Old Broad Street, E.C., 9th May, 1895.

W.

[Are we collectors of Pictures pure and simple? If so, the "S.C.F." and its adherents are wrong, and friend "W" is in the right. On the other hand, if we are philatelists who study stamps for the sake of their historic interest; then friend "W" you are wrong—most emphatically. You can buy a pretty picture at 1d. a sheet at any stationers; and although "Gumpaps" have stooped pretty low, they do not as yet sell at that rate. Let us hope, however, they will reach that figure soon.]—Eds.

AN UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL.

DEAR SIR,—I did not receive my paper, the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, on Sunday last, as I should have done. Kindly see to this and send me one, as I cannot go on collecting stamps without it. It is worth its weight in GOLD to us ALL. I subscribed (I think for one year), and the year is not up yet. So that cannot be the cause of this delay.

Yours faithfully,

Penzance, April 9th, 1895.

J.E.R.

[The paper was duly despatched on day of publication, but evidently your copy must have been mis-carried. However, a fresh copy was sent on 10/4/95. —Eds.]

Answers to Correspondents.

* * * We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

Focus—S.W.—You wish to know the difference between an imperforate stamp and a rouletted one.—Although this is apparently a very simple question, it is astonishing how few collectors really know what "roulette" means.—The word is derived from the French equivalent of "wheel" and indicates a mechanical contrivance by means of which small cuts of more or less greater distance from each other were made between the rows of stamps, vertically as well as horizontally in order to separate single specimens more readily and evenly than could be done with the scissors, which was the only means at the disposal of the postmaster to retail single copies to the public; such copies would be called imperforate, whereas those separated by means of a roulette, would necessarily be called rouletted.

R.P.J. (Hereford).—You will find the plate number (3) on the 1½d. rose-red, (Hilckes' Cat. No. 298) in the lower part of the extreme border of the stamp. Plate 1, however, was not thus distinguished, but the mere fact of having no plate number prove it to emanate from the first plate. (b). The penny brown of the 1880 series, shows no distinguishing plate number on the stamp, but only on the outside margin of the sheet.

A.D. (Hatfield).—The difference between English, Scotch and Irish postmarks are carefully explained in our Publishers' Catalogue (4/6, post free), and we are afraid space forbids us to enter into details in this column.

Stampology, (Battersea).—You are about the 999th of our correspondents who wishes a list of gumpaps. To all these, we beg to say that it is utterly impossible to publish a list until it has been decided what is a "gumpap."—No doubt, however, the newly formed committee of the "S.S.S.S." will do something of the kind.

I.D.W. (Lancaster).—The "hairline" was added to the plate of certain English stamps to distinguish such plate from those previously used. Later on all plates were simply numbered. (b). The "Silk-thread" or "Dickinson" paper was invented by the gentleman whose name it bears, as a safeguard against forgeries. In consequence, however, of the great expense, the system was abandoned, although its usefulness is proved by the fact, that many Continental Postal Authorities also tried it only to abandon it for the same reason. (c). You surely are aware that the "blackness" of some of your 1d. red, plate number, is owing to atmospheric influences. Some months ago, we gave a detailed account, how to restore stamps to their pristine state. (d). The introductory remarks in our Publishers' Catalogue on English Stamps, (4/6, post free) to the postal fiscals will give you the reason why certain fiscal stamps were admitted for postal purposes.

G.B. (Como).—All Spanish stamps which are used for telegraph or other fiscal purposes, were formerly perforated with a round hole "O"; the current issues are, however, perforated with a "T." In our opinion these stamps are not fit to be collected. Old Spanish stamps with three heinous black lines printed across, emanated from remainders which were sold to dealers some years ago.

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING JUNE 1st.
All News for this column must reach the office first post on Wednesday previous to date of publication.

Auction Sales.

- May 22.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 & 64, Chancery Lane, E.C., at 6 p.m.
May 23-24.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 5 p.m. precisely.
May 25.—Mr. Wm. Hadlow, at 13, Warwick Court, at 2 p.m.
May 27.—Mr. W. Hadlow, at 13, Warwick Court, at 6 p.m.
May 29.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at their rooms, 47 Leicester Square, W.C., at 6 p.m.

Tapling Collection.

The following countries are now on view in the King's Library, British Museum: British Guiana (last part), British Honduras, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Falkland Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Nevis, Royal Mail Company, St. Christopher.

City of London Club.

Weekly Meetings at 121, Cheapside, Cossavella's Restaurant, every Thursday, at 7.30 p.m. No Meeting on May 23rd.

London Philatelic Society.

Every alternate Friday at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

London Philatelic Exchange.

May 21.—121, Cheapside, E.C., Cossavella's Restaurant.

THE "DESIDERATUM" PHILATELIC ALBUM.

READERS will find a circular with the present issue relating to a new Philatelic Album of a most novel construction. It has been invented by a collector who has spent many months over trial experiments, and the result of his labours are now, for the first time, put on the market. Samples can be seen at the offices of our Publishers, but the circular explains itself.

BACK NUMBERS.

We have still Complete Sets left in Stock at the uniform rate of 1½d. each, post free, but as we are running short of No. 3 we have raised the price to 3d. per copy for that number.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.—Pages of Two Columns.

For One Insertion—	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Page ..	5 0 0	Whole Page ..	4 0 0
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One-Eighth Page ..	0 15 0	One-Eighth Page ..	0 12 6

Pages of Three Columns.

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TERMS:—Strictly Cash with Order.

Printed for the Proprietors, HARRY HILCKES & Co., LIMITED, by MESSRS PARDY & SON, Philatelic Printers, 8, The Triangle, Bournemouth, and Published at 64, Cheapside, London.

Never be afraid to write to the Editors of this paper about anything that puzzles you.



THE STAMP COLLECTORS'

COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1895.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

Class a—Superb condition, if unused with gum, (mint state), if used, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked *

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
<i>Mr. W. HADLOW, April 25th, 1895.</i>		
a	British Columbia, 25c., perf. 12½. *	1 17 6
a	The same	1 3 0
c	British Guiana (1853), 4c. blue, stop after 8, worm-hole	0 14 0
c	Another, same variety, light blue, worm-holes	0 10 0
b	Canada, 6d. lilac	0 14 0
b	7½d. green	2 0 0
b	Ceylon, 10d. carmine, imperf.	0 15 0
b	4d. rose, star, perf.	0 18 0
c	Gambia, 1/- green, *	0 13 0
c	Great Britain, 2d., perf. 16, small crown, thinned *	1 2 0
b	10d., octagonal, double print (reserve £2)..	2 0 0
c	2/- red-brown, heavy postmark	1 2 0
b	5/-, plate 4, 8 copies	1 7 0
b	Hanover, ½gr. perle en scie, red gum, *	0 13 0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., late state	0 19 0
c	2d. small fillet	1 6 0
b	1d. Greek border, cut close	1 2 0
a	1/- buff, no. wmk., imperf., *	1 1 0
a	Mecklenburg Strelitz, ½gr.	1 3 0
b	Montserrat, 6d. black on green, 2 copies	0 11 0
c	Naples, 50gr. lake, rubbed	1 8 0
b	Nevis, 6d. perf. 13	1 10 0
c	Another, worm-hole	1 6 0
c	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow, cut at side	2 0 0
b	Newfoundland, (½d. carmine-rose, cut close, *	6 0 0
b	8d. carmine-rose, *	1 0 0
c	Another, corner cut	0 14 0
b	New Zealand, 6d. pelure, *	3 0 0
b	1/-, wmk. N.Z. perf.	0 18 0
c	Nova Scotia, 8½c. green	0 11 0
c	6d. green	1 5 0
b	Peru, 1 dinero, red, arms sideways	0 12 0
b	Philippines, the "Coreros" error, *	0 10 0
c	Portuguese Indies, 20r. on original, pmk. Oct., '71	0 16 0
a	St. Helena, 1d., perf. 14 x 12½, 2 pairs, *	0 11 0
a	St. Lucia, 2½d. on carmine, block of 6, *	0 18 0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. ultramarine, star, *	1 14 0
b	1/- blue-black	0 15 0
c	ditto, compound perms., thinned	0 12 0
c	South Australia, 1d. dark green, imperf. pair	1 16 0
c	1d. green, imperf., 2 copies	1 1 0
b	1d. dark green, imperf., pair on original	2 0 0
a & c	1d. yellow-green, imperf., pair ditto	1 16 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
b	South Australia, 9d. violet, printed both sides (reserve £3 10s.)	3 10 0
c	N.T. on 1d., perf. 11½ x 12½, on piece of original	2 0 0
a	Sweden, 4sk-6co. blue, *	0 14 0
c	United States (1869), 90c., corner loose	1 19 0
c	Another	0 14 0
b	Justice, 24c.	1 0 0
c	ditto, 30c., heavy pmk.	0 11 0
a	ditto, 90c.	4 8 0
b	Providence, entire sheet, 11 of 5c., 1 of 10c., * but no gum	10 10 0
c	Victoria, 2d., fine background, on original	1 2 0
b & c	3d. lake, 2 copies	0 17 0
b	6d. orange, roulette two sides, on original	1 12 0
b	Western Australia, first issue, 2d. brown-red, printed on back, (?) roulette, *	6 6 0
b	ditto, 3d. blue, vertical pair, *	0 17 0
b	ditto, 6d. bronze-black, vertical pair	11 0 0
a	(1880) 2d. grey, block of 4, *	0 12 0
b	Zululand, 1/-, pair, on original	0 10 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co.'s Sale, April 30th, 1895.

b	Antigua, 4d. blue, C.C., 6 copies	0 14 0
a	Bermuda, 1, perf. 12½ by 14, vertical strip of 3, no perfs. between stamps,	1 18 0
c	British Guiana (1862), 2c. yellow, crossed hearts	2 10 0
c	Brunswick, ½gr. black, percé en arc	1 5 0
c	Buenos Ayres, "In Peso" brown, thinned	0 16 0
b	Bulgaria, 5 stot. rose (the error) on original	5 15 0
c	Canada, 7½d. green, small margins	1 9 0
c	Cape of Good Hope, 6d. lilac, roulette	1 3 0
b	½d. on 3d., C.C.	0 19 0
a	5/- orange, C.A.	0 16 0
c	Ceylon, 5d. brown, no wmk. pair on original	1 16 0
a	Colombia, (1862), 50c. green, *	0 17 0
b	(1863), 50c. green, no gum, *	0 5 0
a	Dominica, 6d. orange, C.A., pair, *	0 18 0
b	Dominican Republic, (1866), 1 real blue, "Unreal" error	1 7 0
b	India, ½a. red (9½ arches), *	7 5 0
a	6a. lilac and green, tall type, strip of 5, *	3 15 0
a	Labuan, 6c. on 40c. ochre, inverted surcharge, *	1 10 0
c	Malta, ½d. buff on blue paper	0 11 0
b	Mexico, (1867), ½r. grey, gothic surcharge	0 10 0
b	ditto, 1r. blue, ditto	0 7 0
c	Guadalajara, (1867), 1r. on grey-blue, wove	0 11 0
a	Moldavia, 54 paras green, on original	15 10 0
a	Naples, 50gr. lake	2 0 0
b	½ tornese blue, trinacria	13 0 0
c	Natal, first issue, 6d. green, on piece of original	0 14 0
c	ditto, 1/- buff, 2 copies ditto, one badly damaged	2 6 0
b	1/- green, double surcharge, large Roman type	0 16 0
b	Nevis, 4d. orange, engraved	0 19 0
a	1/- green, lithograph, *	1 12 0
b	New Brunswick, 3d. red and half another, used together	1 16 0
b	Newfoundland, 6d. orange-vermilion	2 2 0
c	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 2	1 1 0
a	ditto, 2d. plate 2	2 4 0
b	ditto, 3d., 2 copies	14/- and 1 3 0
b	Laurated, 3d., "Waces," on piece of original, 3 averaged	1 1 0
a	New Zealand, 4d. yellow, no wmk.	0 16 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
<i>The London Philatelic Co., May 1st, 1895.</i>		
2 b 2 c	British Guiana (1853), 1c. red, strip of 4, 2 with worm holes	2 0 0
1 b 2 c	ditto, ditto, strip of 3, 1 with worm holes	1 12 0
1 a 1 c	(1850), 1c. magenta, pair, 1 with worm holes	7 0 0
c	(1856), 4c. magenta, worm holes, corners cut to octagon	6 0 0
c	ditto, ditto, worm holes, cut square	8 10 0
c	ditto, ditto, ditto, cut to octagon	5 15 0
b	Ceylon, 8d. deep brown, imperf., large margins	18 0 0
b	9d. olive-brown, ditto	1 12 0
a	1/- violet, ditto, strip of 5 on piece of original	7 0 0
a	6d. deep brown, perf. *	5 5 0
a	Colombia (1861), 2½c. black	2 4 0
c	(1862), 10c. dark blue	0 14 0
a	ditto, 20c. red	3 15 0
a	ditto, 1 peso, lilac on bluish (with 5 and 10 of 1864), on piece of original	3 10 0
a	(1868), 1 peso, rose on laid, 3 averaged	0 9 0
c	(1876), 10 pesos, black on pink, *	0 16 0
a	(1879), 25c. black on rose (Scott No. 96), 3 * averaged	0 19 0
c	(1883), 20c. rose	0 15 0
a	ditto, 5c. blue, strip of 3 imperf.	0 7 0
a	(1886), 5 pesos, black on white	0 11 0
a	ditto, 10 pesos, black on pink *	0 11 0
c	ditto, 5 pesos, buff on yellow, imperf. 2 averaged	0 9 0
b	(1888), 50c. brown, vertical pair imperf. *	0 9 0
c	ditto, 10 pesos black on pink	0 9 0
b	Cundinamarca, 1 peso on 10c. rose, 11/- and	0 15 0
a	Dominica, 6d. orange	0 15 0
a	France, first issue, 15c. green on original, 6 averaged	0 7 0
c	French Colonies, 4c. grey	0 16 0
b	Great Britain, 6d. octagonal, red-violet, *	3 7 6
b	2/- red-brown	1 18 0
b	10/- anchor	1 1 0
c	Another, creased	0 12 0
a	£1, Maltese cross	1 4 0
a	Hanover, 10 gr. showing control No. in margin, *	5 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
<i>Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, May 7 & 8, 1895.</i>		
b	Argentine Republic, 1867, 5c., rouletted	0 5 0
b	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf.	1 18 0
c	Barbados, 5/- rose, faded	1 0 0
c	British Columbia, 10c. blue and rose, perf. 12½, slight tear	2 17 6
b	50c. red and violet, perf. 12½	1 8 0
a	Canada, ¼d. rose, imperf., 2 strips of 3 on entire	4 10 0
b	6¼d. green *	5 10 0
a	3d. red, perforated, 5 specimens on entire, averaged each	0 12 0
b	Cashmere, 1st issue, ¼ anna, black, on specimens, on pieces of original	0 10 0
a	Ceylon, ¼d. rose, imperf.	16 0 0
b	8d. brown, imperf., no margins, but fine	13 0 0
b	9d. violet brown, imperf.	2 4 0
2a	France, 1st issue, 1 franc, strip of 6, first being tête-bêche on piece of original, dated 21st June, 1852	6 0 0
c	Great Britain, 6d., octagonal, block of 4 *	4 10 0
a	£5, pair (telegraphically used)	5 5 0
b	ditto, on bluish ("Specimen")	1 14 0
c	Labuan, 6c. on 16c. red and blue, perf., cut left side	10 10 0
c	Another *	1 12 0
c	New Brunswick, Half of 6d. yellow, used as 3d. on entire, creased	3 15 0
2b 1c	3d. red, 3 on entires	2 10 0
b	Newfoundland, 6¼d. carmine-vermilion	14 0 0
<i>New South Wales. Sydney Views.</i>		
ONE PENNY. PLATE I., on white or bluish.		
a	Four copies fetched from £1 14s. to £2 12s. 6d. average	2 4 9
b	Four single copies fetched from £1 to £1 7s., average	1 4 0
b	Four pairs fetched from £2 12s. to £3 5s., average	3 1 3
b	Two strips of three fetched £4 8s. and	5 0 0
(To be continued).		

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,

✦ Literary and Fine Art Auctioneers, ✦

47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,

WILL HOLD THEIR NEXT

SALE OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

(The Property of Col. LECKIE),

ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 29TH, 1895,

Amongst other VALUABLE STAMPS will be included:

Gibraltar, 1st issue complete
 Great Britain, £5, and 2/- red-brown
 A very fine collection of Indian Native States, Portuguese Indies early issues
 Cape of Good Hope wood blocks, including error 4d. red
 Mauritius, 2d., 1st issue, earliest state of plate
 Reunion, 30 cents, 1851
 Brazils, figure issues
 Canada, 6d. and 10d.
 New Brunswick, 6d. and 1/- unused, very fine
 Newfoundland, 2d. unused, 4d., 6d. and 1/-; used orange vermilion
 St. Vincent, 1/- blue and 1/- brown
 New South Wales, Sidney Views and laureated issues, including 3d. error "Waces"
 Tasmania, 1d. blue
 Victoria, too late

Oldenburg, 1858, 2gr., used and unused, and 1860 3gr. unused and others
 Naples, 50gr.
 Tuscany, 60 crazie and 1 soldo
 Wurtemberg, 18kr., various issues
 Ceylon, ¼d. star, perf. and 1/9. very fine C. C. ¼d., 8d. and 9d. unused
 Hong Kong, 96 cents, yellow brown
 United States, 1855, 30 and 90 cents, unused
 Columbus complete, and a great number of other rarities, including Periodicals and Departmentals
 Argentine Republic, 1864, imperf.
 British Guiana, 1851, unused
 Nevis, early issues
 Nova Scotia, 6d. and 8 ½ cents
 Together with several Albums containing collections from various private sources.

In preparation—THE VALUABLE COLLECTION OF STAMPS formed by J. WELRANIS, Esq.,

Vice-President of the Sidney Philatelic Society.

CATALOGUES may be obtained from

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, 47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C.

ESTABLISHED IN THE YEAR 1796.

BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

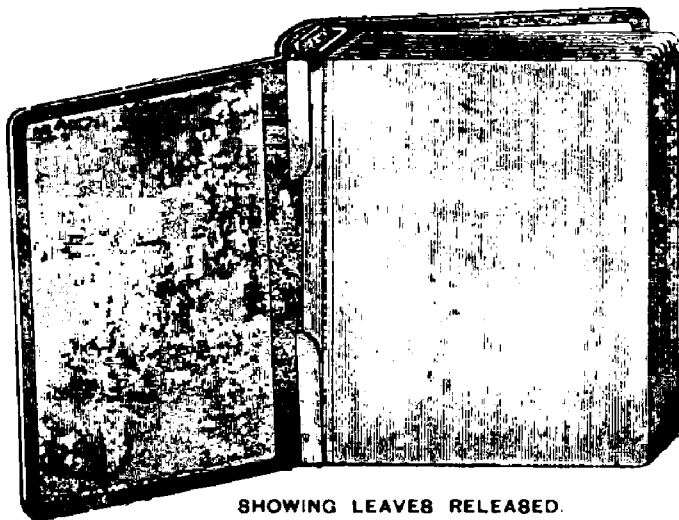
The "Desideratum" Philatelic Album,

With Patent Binding, whereby any or all of the leaves may be detached and replaced in a few moments.

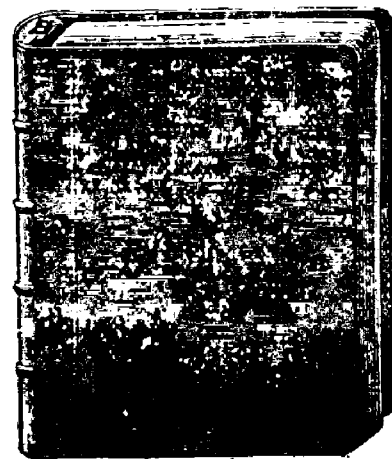


The "Desideratum" is the outcome of researches and experiments, by an experienced Philatelist, to obtain an Album that will combine all the essentials of a well-bound book, together with the advantages of detachable leaves, and having been thoroughly put to the test for the past two years, is now offered to Collectors as the

Best and Cheapest Album obtainable!



SHOWING LEAVES RELEASED.



SHOWING LEAVES SECURED.

The above two illustrations give general views of the Album ("upright" shape), with the leaves released and secured, and it will be seen at a glance that the action of the patent fastening is simplicity itself, and is just the very thing wanted by Philatelists, especially by those who collect in an "advanced" style. Users of all other Albums, in which the leaves are secured by means of metal spikes, will recognise the boon of being able to remove or replace the whole of the leaves without the necessity of un-threading and re-threading them one by one. The fastening of the "DESIDERATUM" is, moreover, simple and *certain*, there being no such thing as thinking all is secure, and then finding the fastening has "not caught." Another immense advantage of the "DESIDERATUM" is that, when opened out, the leaves lie perfectly flat and even.

The following illustrations give enlarged details of the Patent Binding :

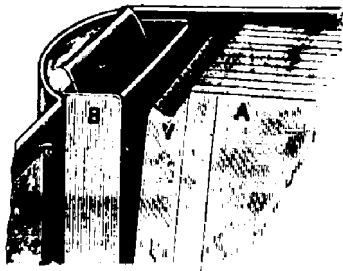


Fig. 1.

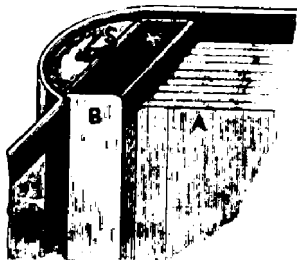


Fig. 2.

Fig. 1 represents the bracket open for the removal of the leaves, and Fig. 2 shews the same closed. B is a bracket fixed to the back of the book, and C is a V-shaped hinged stop, which, when pushed down into its proper position, is caught and held by the spring-catch S. A corresponding bracket, with a V-shaped stop (not hinged) fixed thereto, is attached to the back of the book at its lower extremity. The pages, which are linen-hinged at the back, are cut away at top and bottom to V-shape (V), so as to fit the V-shape stops described above.

Instructions for Use.—**TO INSERT THE PAGES:** Push the spring-catch S back so as to release the upper V-stop C (Fig. 1), then knock the pages up so that the edges are even, and holding them firmly together, insert the lower edge of the backs into the bottom bracket, resting them on the fixed V-stop. Then insert the upper edge of the backs into the top bracket, and push the V-stop down into its proper position (as shewn in Fig. 2), when it will be caught and held by the spring-catch. The pages will then be firmly held between the V-stops of the upper and lower brackets. **TO REMOVE THE PAGES:** Push back the spring-catch S; the hinged stop C will then fly up, and the pages A can be removed.



The leaves, which are linen-jointed, are made of the finest quality paper, and each leaf has a neat border line, with tablet space for name of Country, or other information; the space inside the border being filled in with a semi-visible quadrille network of lines, of a gauge carefully thought out and arranged for the most convenient disposition of the general run of stamps. This quadrille network has also an addition in the shape of semi-visible indicators, showing the central and half-central lines, both vertically and horizontally, an idea for which a provisional Patent has been granted, and an advantage that will be readily appreciated by Collectors who have hitherto had to count the lines to find the required positions.



The “Desideratum” Albums are published in two shapes, upright and oblong, and are of a medium size, so as to be handy and portable, and yet are designed to take almost as many stamps on a page as other Albums of a much more cumbersome nature. Each book contains about 80 leaves, in addition to a handsome gold-printed frontispiece. The size of the leaves of the upright shape is $10\frac{7}{8}$ inches deep by $8\frac{1}{8}$ inches wide, irrespective of the linen joint; that of the oblong shape being $10\frac{5}{8}$ inches long by $8\frac{5}{8}$ inches deep. They are published in two qualities, as described on next page.

PRICE LIST.



No. 1 AU—Upright shape, bound whole padded Morocco, lettered in gold, gold lined, gold tooled extra, rounded corners, leaves of specially made cream wove paper, with gilt edges, etc., etc., and fitted in a specially designed cloth-covered case, lined swansdown 3 2/6

No. 1 AO—Oblong shape ditto ditto 3 2/6

Either of the above can be supplied fitted with heavily gilt patent expanding lock and key, at 4/6 extra.

No. 1 BU—Upright shape, half-bound, cloth sides, lettered in gold, gilt lines, rounded corners, leaves plain edges, and fitted in specially designed cloth-covered case 2 1/-

No. 1 BO—Oblong shape ditto ditto 2 1/-

Additional leaves supplied at the following rates :

To fit No. 1 AU or No. 1 AO, 2/6 per doz. ; No. 1 BU or No. 1 BO, 1/9 per doz.

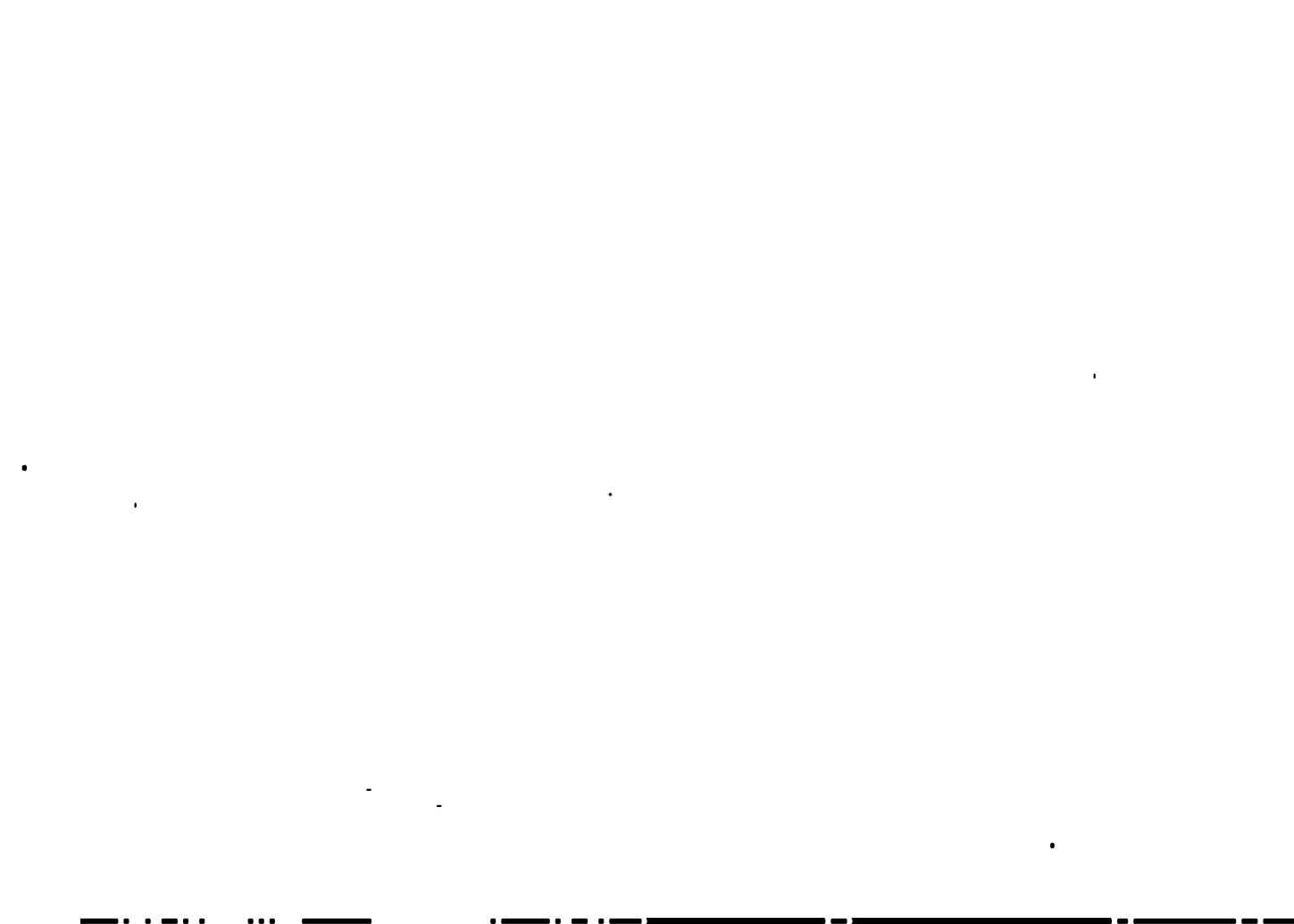
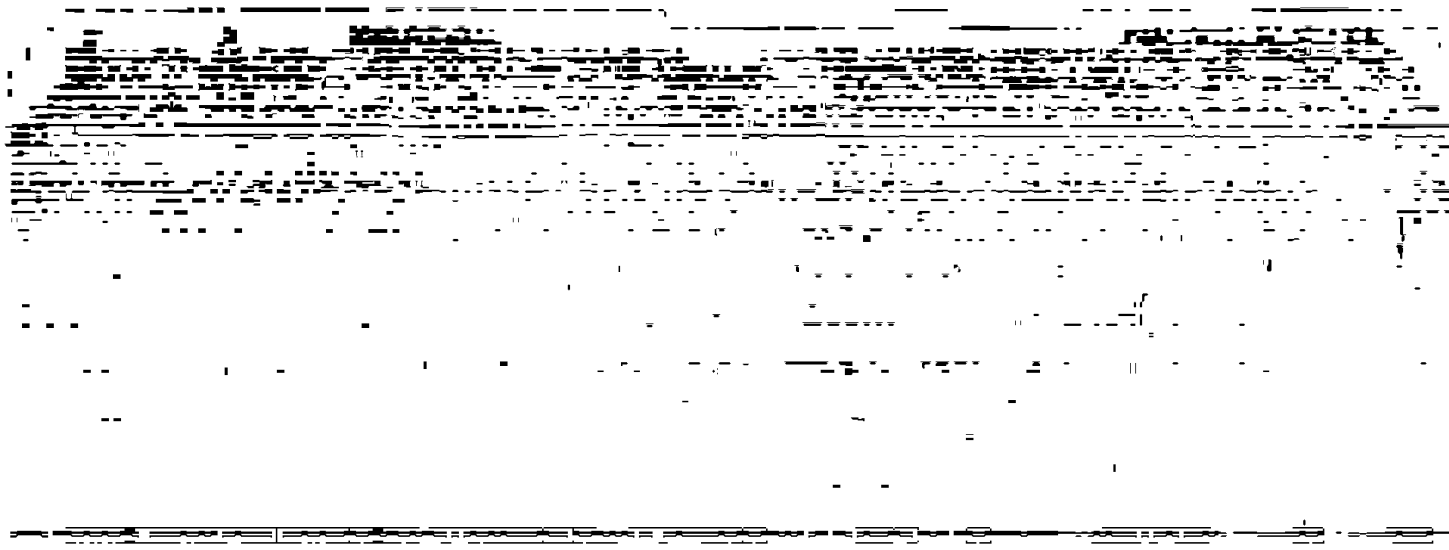


SUPPLIED BY

Messrs. HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,

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LONDON, E.C.



THE "UNIVERSAL" * * *

FOR Specialists. COLLECTING BOOK,

Bound in Morocco, gilt edges, strong white paper, with five thin grey lines ruled across, holding about 1,500 Stamps, post free - **3/6**
 Same, but bound in Cloth, thoroughly well finished, suitable for Dealers' Approval Books, post free - **1/9**

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Doings of Societies.

**SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
 LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
 BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
 LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

No reports to hand on going to press.

LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the eighteenth meeting, held at Effingham House on Friday, 22nd March, Mr. Thomas Dorman and Mr. William C. Stone were elected members. The latter gentleman, it may be mentioned, is a prominent American collector, closely identified with the fortunes of the American Philatelic Association. Mr. E. D. Bacon read a paper on early New Zealand; dealing with the first locally printed stamps and giving copies of official correspondence relative thereto.

Then in pursuance of notice previously given, Mr. Castle then moved:

"That this Society is of opinion that the great increase in the production of speculative stamps for sale to collectors threatens to have a very serious effect on the collection of genuine postal issues throughout the world, and that a committee be appointed to consider the best means to be adopted to put a stop to the scandal."

This was seconded by Mr. Nankivell, and carried unanimously after an interesting discussion, in the course of which many suggestions were made as to the nature of the steps which might be adopted to cope with a generally-admitted evil.

On the motion of Mr. Garth, seconded by Mr. Bacon, the following members were appointed as a committee in pursuance of the terms of Mr. Castle's motion, viz., Messrs. Castle, Nankivell, Tilleard, Ehrenbach, and Oldfield.

The nineteenth meeting of the Society, held on March 29th, was given up to the work of revising a reference list of "The Stamps of Hanover."

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The thirteenth ordinary meeting was held on April 10th, the President in the chair. The Hon. Secretary exhibited his collection of New South Wales, and led a discussion on these stamps, in which most of the members joined. A vote of thanks was passed to the Hon. Secretary, who will continue the subject at the next meeting.—**ASHER LEVY, Hon. Sec.**, 190, Union Street, Plymouth.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MARCH 21ST.—*Display, Victoria.*—Messrs. Wilson, Pimm, Johnson and others showed very complete collections of this interesting country. A large number of rarities, and

minor varieties sustained the attention of the meeting until a late hour.

April 4th.—*F. J. Crick, Esq. (Northampton), C. W. Boyton, Esq. (Great Yarmouth),* were unanimously elected members.

Mr. W. Pimm then read an interesting paper on the stamps of Spain, illustrating it from his own collection. The Hon. Sec. and others also shewed fairly complete collections of the same country.

April 18th.—*Display, India and its Native States.*—The President showed almost every one of the rarities of type and surcharge of India unused. The Hon. Sec. showed a general collection of the country and States, used and unused, with their entire envelopes and cards; also stamps used at Zanzibar and the stamps of East Africa, other members shewed collections of the same countries.

May 2nd.—*E. Slinger, Esq. (Grenada),* was unanimously elected corresponding member.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. C. J. Phillips for presenting to the Society the minute book of the old Birmingham Philatelic Society when he was Hon. Sec. It was certainly received with as much enthusiasm as anything that has been presented to the Society owing to its interest as a link with the past.

The meeting then resolved itself into an extraordinary General Meeting, to draw up the programme for 1895-96, which was nearly complete. It was also unanimously decided to issue an Annual Report in neat book form, containing lists of members, rules, balance sheet, résumé, programme, advertisements of members and the trade, and to deposit copies of the same with every Society, English and Foreign, which is mentioned in the official lists, or known to the Society.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE 1st Annual Meeting of this Society was held on Tuesday evening the 7th May. There were 14 members present; the President, Mr. Oliver Frith, occupying the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Hon. Secretary gave a short report of the position and doings of the Society during the session. He stated: "the Society consisted of 23 members. That eight meetings had been held with an average attendance of just over ten. That papers had been read by Mr. Atkinson and Mr. Scott—the former on 'The Stamps of Great Britain,' and the latter on 'Watermarks and Perforations'—and that displays and discussion had taken place on 'The Stamps of Germany, Nova Scotia, and United States,' and a discussion on 'Specialism and General Collecting.'" Mr. Atkinson, the Hon. Secretary of the Exchange Club, then gave a report of what had been done in that branch of the Society,

after which, Mr. Gray, the Hon. Treasurer, explained the financial position of the Society, which it appeared was in a very satisfactory condition.

All the present officers of the Society were re-elected with the exception of Mr. W. M. Gray, as a Vice-President, he desiring to retire from that position. Mr. Stamford being elected in his place.

The 1st meeting of the new session will be held on Tuesday the 1st October, 1895.—**W. H. Scott, 1, Piccadilly, Bradford, Hon. Sec.**

EDINBURGH AND LEITH SOCIETY.

At a meeting held on Monday, May 6th, 1895, in the Hotel Metropole, Edinburgh, Mr. Schnepel, President, in the chair, Messrs. W. Fish and F. G. C. Lundy, were elected members. A paper on the stamps of Prince Edward Island was promised by Mr. Hush for the next meeting, May 20th.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE usual fortnightly meeting was held on Friday, April 26th. Mr. G. B. Duerst presiding. A committee was appointed to make arrangements for a picnic to Chester during the summer.

Mr. J. H. Abbott read a paper on the Postage Stamps of Chili. Chili became a stamp-issuing country in 1853. The Government ordered the necessary labels from Perkins, Bacon, & Co., of London, who prepared the plates and printed some 500,000 of two values, five centavos red and ten centavos blue, on paper watermarked with figures of value. The head of the stamp is intended for a portrait of Columbus. These were forwarded to Santiago, along with the plates, paper, and ink for the production if necessary of more stamps. The issue is interesting, as the process of printing was the same as was used in the production of our first English one penny red and twopenny blue stamps, and resemble the latter inasmuch that they have the same blue tint, caused by the action of the ink on the gum. This blueing of the paper indicates clearly the first issue.

The annual meeting of the society was held yesterday, and will be reported in due course.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE 1st monthly meeting of the Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society will be held on Friday, May 17th, at the office of Mr. Wm. Moss, Market Place, Ashton-under-Lyne; time, 7.30 p.m.

Jan., B Packet, 23 sheets value £26 13s. 2d.; 216 stamps exchanged, value £7 or. 9d.

The Secretary begs to again remind members that no packets will be sent out by him during the holiday months of July and August, and that all sheets sent in to him during those months will be held over till the September packet. **A. A. Grierson, Hon. Sec.**, Taunton Road, Ashton-under-Lyne, May 14th, 1895.

PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 6d for three lines of six words. For every extra line of eight words, 2d.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

TO REDUCE STOCK.—50 Varieties, British Colonials for 1/- The surcharged Ceylon alone guaranteed worth more than the money. F. W. FRANKLIN, 31, Exchange Buildings, Birmingham. [2]

WANTED on Approval.—English Used and Unused at reasonable prices.—H. J. BIGNOLD, Dullatur, Mill Hill, N.W. [3]

200 GENUINE STAMPS, all different, post free 1/1. Cheap Approval Sheets, or will send on receipt of satisfactory reference, selections of Good Medium Stamps, priced low. Correspondents desired Abroad.—J. LOUIS, 159, Fortess Road, N.W. [5]

40 STAMPS, all different, including:—United States, Natal, Egypt, and 6 unused Swiss, post free, 6d., Apply: E. JOHNSON, 58, Paul Street, Finsbury, London, E.C.

UNUSED ENGLISH. Wanted for Collection. Highest references given. Correspondents desired abroad.—Send on approval to Armistead, Colne Road, Burnley. [4]

WANTED 1d. pink, embossed, entire envelopes. silk threads, albinos, double points, errors etc.—CAPTAIN NORTHEY, Northgate, Warwick.

WANTED, Exchange Mart with Philatelists' Supplement, February 11th. Must not be soiled.—PARKER EVANS, 58, Woodville Road, Cardiff.

2 COLUMBUS, unused. I have few copies. What offers? Letter only, to H.B. 47, Pyreland Road, Canonbury.

COLLECTORS' duplicates; 40, different, 3d.; 100, better variety, 7d.; 150, for 1/-; post free.—JOHNSON, Saint James', Hereford.

WANTED. Selections of United States, Newspaper (Warrior), Lagos unused, Ceylon, and N. Scotia, Cash or Exchange. LAKE, 23, Leicester Street, Southampton. [2]

1260 DUPLICATES for sale. Approval Sheets. Cheap. Member of Globe Stamp Exchange Society. Write: J. W. MARSDEN, 11, Alpha Street West, Seadley, Near Manchester.

CHEAP PACKETS. 40, different, including: Ceylon, Chili, Finland, Jamaica, Cape, Roumania, Egypt, Natal, Queensland, &c., post free, 4d.; 60, different, including: Ecuador, Gibraltar, Bermuda, Cyprus, Cuba, Argentine, Dutch Indies, Trinidad, Orange Free State, &c., post free 7d. Special terms for Agents. EDWARD ROBERTS, 7, Cathcart Terrace, Rookwood Road, Nottingham. Clearing off approval sheets at half price. Good value.

STANLEY BROS.' DEALER'S PACKET. 50 Stamps, including following, ALL UNUSED:—Rare 2½d. Cyprus, Rare Bahamas, Niger Coast, Bechuanaland, Costa Rica (catalogued 1/6), Labuan, Cuba, Zululand, Constantinople, Scarce Newfoundland, Monaco, Falkland Islands, 11. Alike suitable for collectors and dealers.—53, Bloomfield Road, Paddington.

PHILATELIC RECORD, Vols. 8, 9, 10 and 11, bound in blue, price 5/6 per vol., post free. 1.0t for £1. Vols. 11, 12 and 13, unbound, 4/- per vol.; three vols., 10/6. Miscellaneous Philatelic Magazines, &c., nearly 200, 5/-, carriage forward.—EDWARD ROBERTS, 7, Cathcart Terrace, Rookwood Road, Nottingham.

EXTRAORDINARY BARGAINS. 50 good Stamps, all different, including:—Monaco, Djibouti, Portugal, Italy, 1863 (embossed), Bosnia, India (on H.M.S.), Japan (15 sets), Egypt, Segnatasse, Spain, 1877 (unused), Eritria, Sweden (official), Tunis, and many other excellent Stamps. Post free, 7d.—S. A. TOMES, Foreign Stamp Dealer, 24, Fisher's Lane, Chiswick.

FREE.—55 Stamps, all different, Given Away to all Collectors applying for Approval Sheets and enclosing 1d. stamp for postage.—Apply at once to E. WOOD, 9, Hoxton Street, London, N.

NEW BRUNSWICK obsolete; Van Diemen's Land, 1863 issue, very rare; Panama, Persia, Sarawak, French Morocco, used; Montenegro, unpaid letter stamp; Zululand; Brazil, unpaid; Greece, unpaid, &c. 30 genuine varieties, 1/1. Foreign exchanges desired.—SMITH, Arthur Road, Kingston, Surrey. [2]

CHARLES MORTIMER'S SPECIAL WANTS.

LIBERAL PRICES PAID.

CANADA, 10d. blue.
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NEWFOUNDLAND, 6½d. carmine-red.
VICTORIA, 10d. grey.
NEW BRUSWICK, 6d. yellow.

Selections of Scarce Stamps invited on Approval. Prompt Cash Payments.

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Over £35,000 worth sold in Five Seasons.

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CATALOGUES post free on application.

70th SALE on JUNE 6th.

All lots to be included in any sale should be sent in not later than three weeks before the sale date.

TERMS—12½ per cent. on the amount realised, but only 10 per cent. on lots consisting of a single stamp, pair, or block, and which realise £3 or more. Lots bought in under a reserve price are charged 1/6 per lot, irrespective of value.

At our 68th Sale on April 30th, the following fine prices were obtained:—

Oldenburg, 4gr., black on green, unused	... 4 6 0
Bulgaria, 5s. rose, error, RECORD PRICE	... 5 15 0
Moldavia, 54 paras, RECORD PRICE	... 15 10 0
India, ½ anna, red, unused...	... 7 5 0
St. Lucia, 1885, 1s. pair, unused, RECORD PRICE	7 15 0

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Lady McLeod on entire env. £15
Cordoba, 15c. violet, on entire env., on laid paper £15
Brazil, 1st issue, 30r., 60r., gor., the set .. £1 15

Approval Sheets against Good References or Cash Deposit.

50 different B. West Indies, post free 4/1
Foreign consignments wanted for Cash.

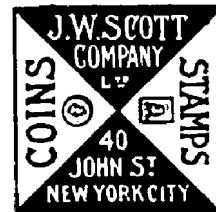
Correspondence in Spanish, French, Portuguese and English.

Best References given. [9]

ALFRED SMITH & SON

BATH. [2]

THE May No. of ALFRED SMITH & SON'S Monthly Circular, contains a priced list of a fine collection of stamps on original letters. Post Free to non-subscribers, 2d.



FIRST & LARGEST

STAMP DEALER

IN THE

UNITED STATES.

Price List on Receipt of P.C

[21]

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Price List with specimen 1/- (stamps).

"Sanitas" Library, Amsterdam Box. [5]

SCOTT'S NEW CATALOGUE

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OLD UNITED STATES.

POSTAGE STAMPS.—15c., 30c., 50c., 61, 62, 63, 64 and 65 of all issues bought at Highest Cash Prices. Send them on approval and receive Cash by return mail.

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To Postal Subscribers.

This time, instead of a stamp, a ½ anna Envelope of India (entire) is presented to every Postal Subscriber. It will be found in the folds of this number.

NEWSAGENTS

who are unable to obtain supplies of the "S.C.P." from their Wholesale Agents, should communicate with the Publishers at 64, Cheapside, E.C.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 18.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies:

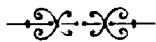
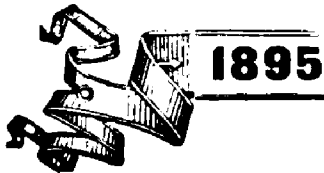
The Liverpool Philatelic Society. The City of London Philatelic Club. Rochdale Philatelic Society.
Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Sheffield Philatelic Society.

WE ARE APPOINTED

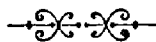
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FOR GREAT BRITAIN FOR

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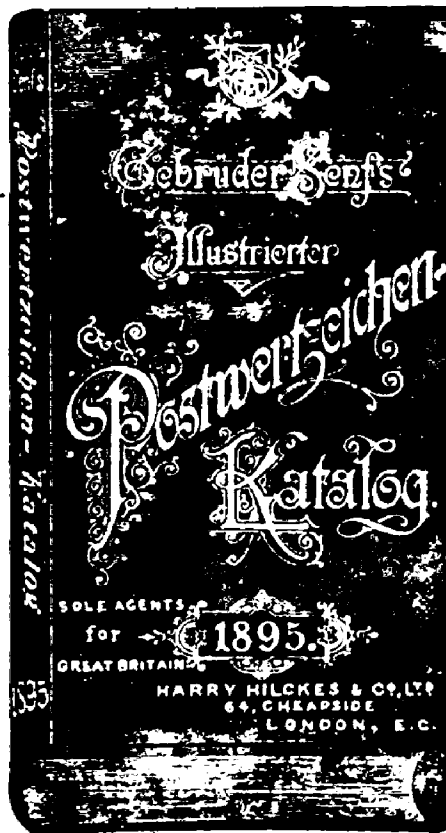
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EXECUTED ON DAY
OF RECEIPT OF FIRST
SHIPMENT.



RETAIL

2/3

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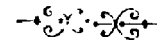
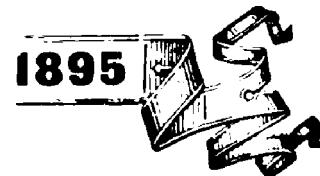


Messrs. SENF BROS.'

famous CATALOGUE

Which will appear early in June.

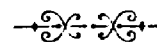
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WHOLESALE TERMS.

Three Copies, carriage paid	£0	5	6
One dozen	..	1	0
Two	1	19
Three	2	18
63 Copies	..	5	0

CASH, WITH ORDER.



We beg particularly to point out that Messrs. SENF wish their Catalogue to be sold at an uniform rate all over the World. Copies are therefore supplied on the express understanding that the above Retail Price is on no account to be departed from. Agents who do not comply with this rule, will on no account receive any further supplies.

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— The Next —

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WILL BE HELD SHORTLY.

A few more Lots can be included if sent in at once

In Preparation and will be Ready shortly :

A CATALOGUE of the STAMPS of GREAT BRITAIN, WEST INDIES, NORTH AMERICA, and UNITED STATES,

Giving latest Market Value,

PRICE **1/-**

Fine Assortment of Rare and Medium Stamps
always on view.

New Brunswick, 1/- superb; Great Britain, 2/- red-brown, used and unused; Mulready Envelopes and Wrappers, 2d. blue, complete sheets of each; Nevis, 6d. green; and other rarities of the West Indies and North America now on Sale.

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To PURCHASE COLLECTIONS and RARE STAMPS.
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— OF —

RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

ORIGINATED IN THIS COUNTRY BY

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,

At the ST. MARTIN'S, TOWN HALL,

CHARING CROSS, S.W.

Last Auction Sale this Season, June 13th and 14th.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, In announcing their Future Dates, beg to draw attention to the following important Sales:—

June 13.—A fine selection, including Great Britain, no lines, 2d. blue, a pair, unused; octagonal 6d., a block of 4, and 1/- green, unused; 2/- brown, fine; perf. 14, large crown, 2d. blue, unused, a block of 4; 3d. rose, imperf., unused, a pair with secret mark, and 1/- with hair lines, imperf. Spain, 19 ctos., rose and brown, an unused pair, with gum. Italy, 2nd issue, 40c. red, strips on entire original envelopes. Ceylon, 1/9 and 2/-, and a fine lot of 6d. and 1/-, all imperf., and unused pence issues. India Service, 2 annas, fine. Trinidad, 1st issue, a fine lot, lithographed, fine impression, 1d. blue, superb, coarse ditto, 1d. grey, a pair. St. Vincent, provl., 1d. on half 6d., a fine unused pair. Barbados, 1d. on half 5/- Nevis, 4d. rose, 6d. and 1/-, and 1/- lithographed, unused strip of three imperf., between, very fine. Tobago, C and CC., 6d. ochre. British Guiana, provisional 2d. black and yellow. British Colombia, 25c. imperf., vertically. Newfoundland, 6½d. carmine. Nova Scotia, 1/- Canada, 6d. green. Vancouver Islands, 5c. rose, imperf. New Brunswick, 6d. yellow, unused, torn. Tasmania, 1d. blue. New South Wales, Sydney View, plate II., 1d. red, unused, with gum, and others, also a few collections.

It is particularly requested that Owners desirous of obtaining Special Days of Sale, should communicate as early as possible, in order that due publicity may be given. Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, they have decided to issue them, in all cases where practicable, at least one month before the date of Sale. In order to enable them to carry out this arrangement, Owners intending to include Stamps, should forward them at the earliest possible moment.

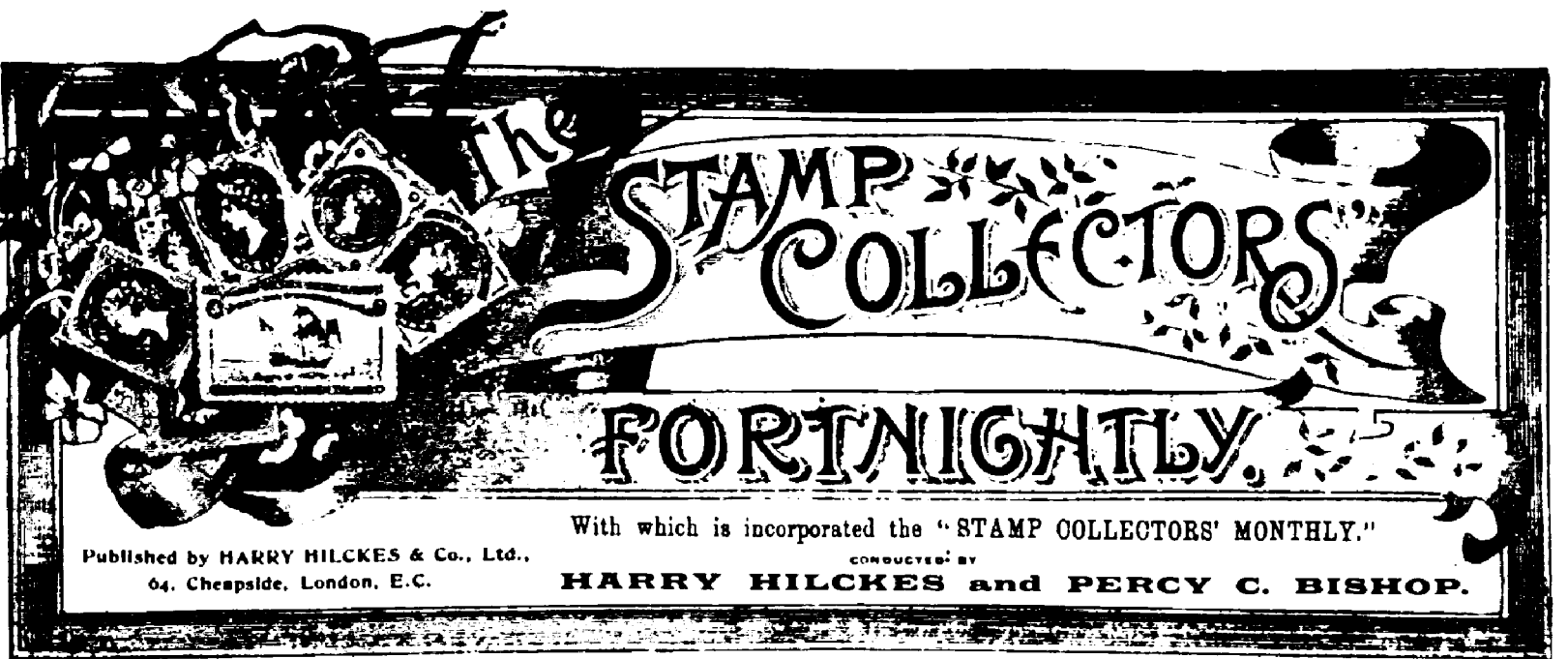
CATALOGUES may be had of

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With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

CONDUCTED BY
HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

- The Liverpool Philatello Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatello Society.

No. 18.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	145
Scientific Philately Made Easy	146
Philately at Home	146
The "S.S.S.S."	146
City of London Philatelic Club	147
Between Ourselves	148
Forgers and Their Work	149
Secret Marks of Switzerland	149
Philatelic Events	150
Philately Abroad	151
Our Forum	152
Answers to Correspondents	152

physician of great repute, and one of the best known of Canadian philatelists. For several terms he acted as President of the Canadian Philatelic Association.

WHAT could have been the Doctor's motive—supposing him to be guilty—it is difficult to guess. Canadian readers, by the way, will not need to be reminded that Dr. Cameron was a witness in the case against John R. Hooper, better known to the philatelic reading public as "Canadianis."

MR. EDGAR NELTON himself is described in the American papers as a "travelling juggler and sleight-of-hand man." Verily philately gains recruits from all classes and all callings!

ANOTHER serious loss of stamps was that recently sustained by Mr. Webb, a Bombay collector. He left several sheets of stamps in a public carriage, and as he has now advertised a substantial reward for their return, it is fair to assume that his specimens were rare.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL Heinrich von Stephan has been at the head of the German postal system since the end of 1866. To him we owe the Universal Postal Union. He has superintended the mails of the German Empire ever since there was a German Empire; and for five years prior to 1871, he bossed the postal administration of the North German Confederation.

MR. HENRY GREMMEL, publisher of the New York *Post Office*, the smart American journal that started the "Minor Varieties" craze, is on a flying visit to Europe. He is now in Paris and returns to America by one of the German liners.

Philatelic Personalities.

A MEMBER of the P.P.A.—and one who, though not on the committee, may be called a prominent member—has been expelled the Berlin Dealers' Society, for non-payment of fees and for "ruffianly behaviour." Possibly, but not probably, the P.P.A. will "do something" in the matter, though we are very far from wishing to imply that a man who is not good enough for the Berlin Dealers' Society is unworthy to rub shoulders with a good sprinkling of the men who belong to the Philatelic Protection Association.

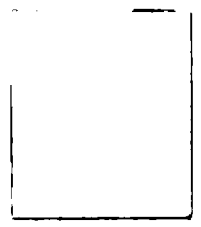
LONDON PHILATELISTS will rejoice to hear that Mr. C. F. Larmour, of Calcutta, is on his way to the metropolis—if, indeed, he has not already arrived. Mr. Larmour is a *persona grata* in the Philatelic Society of Bengal, and the *Philatelic World*, smartest and most interesting of Indian philatelic papers, is under his editorship.

THE fact is not altogether uninteresting to philatelists that Mrs. Fellowes, a daughter of the late Sir Rowland Hill, is actively engaged in preparing a life of her distinguished father. It is expected that the book will be published in time for the Rowland Hill centenary in December.

DR. C. E. CAMERON, who is under arrest in Montreal on a charge of stealing Mr. Edgar Nelton's \$3000 collection, is a

To Postal Subscribers.

PLEASE find on this space a 2 anna blue Stamp of India, presented gratis to postal subscribers only.



Has your friend Jones seen this paper? If not, [arrow pointing right]

Scientific Philately Made Easy.

I.—PERFORATIONS.—By DR. BRYANT.

(Continued from page 129.)

Directly the machine became the property of Government, Mr. Edwin Hill, of the General Post Office, and Napier and Sons, the great engineers, with others, constructed a corrected model in which steam power for striking was introduced; a gauge of 16 needles to the 2 centimetres fixed, and which moreover were adjustable, so that broken or imperfect points could be removed and replaced at will.

The first officially perforated stamps appeared *we believe*, on April 6th, 1854, and it is hardly likely Archer's machine was ever used in the stamping department of the Inland Revenue Office. In 1874, or thereabouts, it was sold for waste or old iron, and considering the importance and use of perforation, it seems to us that they might easily have deposited it for safe and permanent keeping in either the Patent Office Collection or at South Kensington Museum.

In 1853 (before the official issue of the mother country), Mr. Raymond, of Melbourne, Victoria, had invented and used a machine for separating stamps. The rare 6d. orange, "Postage Stamp," serrated perf. and also machine perf. 12, exists as a monument of Mr. Raymond's industry and skill.

Perforations, as a whole, fall into two large groups, *viz.*, machine and roulettes. Then again, we can describe all perfs. as being either continuous (machine, serpentine, scalloped, or arc) and non-continuous cuts (such as roulette, seriated, and dentelated, or *percé-en-points*).

It would be best to deal with the machine perforations first, *i.e.*, those in which needles and pins are the puncturing agents. We have spoken of "oval holes" as produced by Archer's third trial. In the governmental issues of 1854 the holes produced are circular and gauge 16, which latter was reduced to 14, a gauge which has remained in use up to the moment of writing. Needles always pass *through* the paper, thus perforations so caused are cleanly cut and even.

Between 1854 and 1860 many of the early issues of the British Colonies, such as Grenada, Trinidad, Antigua and Natal (others also might be named), were perforated with a machine fitted with pins, *i.e.*, no points. In any case, however, the work was woefully incomplete; the paper not being pierced so as to form holes; the pieces of paper thus adhering to labels after the latter had been perforated. This is termed "pin-pricked," "semi-pierced" for want of a better name. We venture to suggest that this peculiarity might well be covered and expressed by "blunt perfs.," *i.e.*, needles without points. It is certain some name is required for this variety.

Then there is the "serpentine" or "*percé-en-serpentine*." This, as its name implies, is of a wavy form, and moreover a continuous cut. The stamps of Finland, issued between 1860-72, and possibly the variety "La Suisse," would come under this term. A privately perforated 1d. red-brown English is known to us exhibiting this peculiarity. It was on the cover, but only the top was perforated thus.

We have referred to the serrated perf. of Victoria; we should now remark that it has been used in Germany for the stamps of Bremen, and in America for certain issues of the seaport of La Guayra, in Venezuela. Its equivalent in French would be "*percé-en-scie*" (*i.e.* saw-teeth).

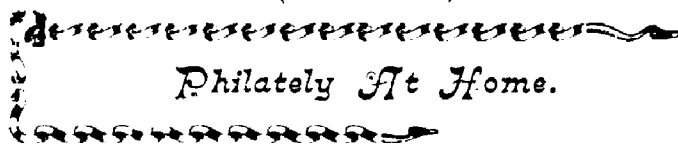
Dentelated or "*percé-en-points*" consist of pointed ridges, differing from the serpentine in that the teeth are *straight* instead of curved. The only series of stamps showing this peculiarity is perhaps the 1864 issue of La Guayra. Sometimes the points are oblique, hence the sub-variety "*percé-par-oblique*."

Scalloped, or "*percé-en-arc*," exists among old Germans, and its employment commenced at an early date. But the more expeditious method of rouletting soon supplanted it.

We now turn to the great group of "line roulettes." Of these there are one or two varieties, in which the differ-

ences are very slight indeed. First comes the plain roulette, *i.e.*, a series of cuts on the blank space intervening between the labels. This is always straight, and most of the German States, up to 1868, used this method. For some short time a system existed at the Frankfort-on-Maine postage stamp factory, by which the labels of Thurn and Taxis and Luxemburg were rouletted on coloured lines (*percé-lignes-couleur*). As this was expensive, it was soon dropped. In 1876 the American Bank Note Company of New York set up a rouletting machine and operated on the stamps of all the countries for whom they contracted. This accounts for the large number of American rouletted stamps we see. Its use is dying out in consequence of the extreme facility with which the ordinary machines (needles) can be worked.

(To be continued.)



THE MAKING OF A CATALOGUE.

WE hear that one of the smaller provincial stamp-dealing firms has in preparation a complete priced catalogue, which will form a sort of cheap copy of Stanley Gibbons' justly celebrated publication. It is to be feared that our too ambitious friends in the country, if they persist in their idea, will come a sorry cropper. We have in mind at the moment the woefully poor attempt of a certain firm with offices well within the sound of "Bow Bells" to go one as good as Stanley Gibbons. That catalogue commenced publication, we think, in 1892, and is still incomplete! It's simply a shipping order, making a complete priced catalogue.

WE ARE GEORGE WASHINGTONS IN THIS OFFICE.

IN a recent issue of the FORTNIGHTLY we printed a paragraph headed "More Wrinkles About Watermarks," and this meeting the eagle eye of the Editor of *Chums*, we have been requested to "state in our next issue that we copied the contribution in question from *Chums*." We cannot state any such thing, for the paragraph was copied, not from *Chums*, but from a provincial newspaper. Possibly that wicked newspaper "lifted" the matter from our boyish contemporary, but if such was the case they did not acknowledge the source. We should like to oblige our friend of "*La Belle Sauvage*," but really, Mr. Editor, truthfulness is our chief affliction.

TO LICK OR NOT TO LICK?

"MEDICAL," in a recent letter to *Tit Bits*, warns the public against licking postage stamps. In the gum, he tells us, germs may lurk. The adhesive side of the stamp, especially these warm days, "furnishes a most acceptable medium for these infinitesimal, but deadly organisms. This is all very well, but prithee tell us, "Medical," how is a fellow to affix a stamp to a letter while he is walking in a dry street, with no puddle handy?

INTERCHANGEABLE STAMP ALBUMS.

WITH this issue of the FORTNIGHTLY, we circulate a very artistically printed circular, giving details and prices of Messrs. Whitfield King & Co's. new "Interchangeable" stamp albums, and of other useful articles, such as stamp tongs and hinges.

The "S.S.S.S."

(A fuller account of the meeting briefly reported in our last).

A MEETING convened by the annexed circular was held at 391, Strand, London, on the 10th May, at 3 p.m.

UNNECESSARY AND SPECULATIVE ISSUES.

At a joint meeting of the Philatelic Society of London, and of representatives of the Trade, held last evening at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, it was resolved:

"That all members of the Trade invited to or attending this meeting, together with other well-known Stamp Dealers, be asked to meet at 391, STRAND, on FRIDAY, May 10th, at 3 p.m., to appoint a Representative Committee of the Trade."

It is proposed that such a Committee of the Trade and Philatelic Press be formed to co-operate with the Committee

appointed by the London Philatelic Society, whose duties it shall be to consider the measures to be taken to prevent the issue of unnecessary stamps and surcharges, and to warn collectors against purchasing them.

I cordially invite you to attend at my Office, as above, at 3 p.m. (prompt to the minute) on Friday next, to appoint the said Committee, to elect a Secretary, and to take what other steps may be considered necessary.—I am, dear sir, yours very truly, Chas. J. Phillips.

The following were invited: Messrs. W. Brown, T. Buhl, Butler Bros., T. Birch, P. M. Bright, F. G. Bepler, D. Brosnan, Percy C. Bishop, G. H. Callf, T. W. Cheveley, E. Clark, M. P. Castle, W. Lundy, A. W. Drain, E. B. Evans, R. B. Earée, A. C. Emerson, Harold Frederick, F. R. Ginn, G. C. Ginn, M. Giwelb, G. H. Howe, Harry Hilckes, E. Healey, W. Hadlow, W. Jacoby, Whitfield King, W. Lincoln, W. Morley, A. Myerscough, C. Mortimer, W. H. Peckitt, C. J. Phillips, T. Kidpath, L. Rockliffe, A. Smith, Stafford Smith, Gordon Smith, J. F. Telfer, W. T. Wilson, Winch, W. A. S. Westoby, J. W. Wood, and H. R. Oldfield.

The following signed the attendance book: Messrs. M. P. Castle, Gordon Smith, W. H. Peckitt, Walter Morley, Harry Hilckes, Chas. J. Phillips, M. Giwelb, G. H. Howe, T. W. Wood, Edwin Clark, Henry J. Wildsmith, D. Field, Fred R. Ginn, Rockliffe, Josephs, Percy C. Bishop, J. Scott Stokes, W. Hadlow and E. B. Evans.

It was proposed by Mr. M. Giwelb, and seconded by Mr. Harry Hilckes, that Mr. Chas. J. Phillips should take the chair, and carried unanimously.

The circular convening the meeting was taken as read.

The Chairman briefly explained the objects of the meeting, and read replies to the circular which he had sent out on the 27th March last, from Messrs. J. B. Moens, Richard Senf (of Senf Bros.), Arthur Maury, Scott Stamp and Coin Company, and C. H. Mekeel, who one and all promised active co-operation.

It was proposed by Mr. C. J. Phillips, and seconded by Mr. W. H. Peckitt, "That a Permanent Committee of leading Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Journalists be formed to carry out the objects of the resolutions which were carried at the meeting held at the London Philatelic Society's rooms on the 6th inst." Carried unanimously.

The following are the aforesaid resolutions:

- 1.—"That this meeting is of opinion that the great increase in the production of speculative stamps for sale to collectors, threatens to have a very serious effect on the collection of genuine postal issues throughout the world."
- 2.—"That it is desirable to form a Representative Committee of the leading dealers and importers, and of the Philatelic Press in Great Britain, to co-operate with the Committee appointed by the London Philatelic Society in considering the measures to be taken to prevent the issue of unnecessary stamps and surcharges, and to warn collectors against purchasing them."
- 3.—"That it shall be the duty of the two Committees to inquire into the states of all future issues, and to decide what shall be classed as unnecessary or speculative, and to arrange for public notice being given of their decision in the Philatelic Press."
- 4.—"That the Committee shall use their utmost efforts to secure the exclusion from all catalogues, albums, and journals, of all unnecessary issues."
- 5.—"That with regard to existing issues the two Committees shall consult, and that public notice shall be given of such as may be unnecessary."

It was proposed by Mr. Castle, and seconded by Mr. Rockliffe, "That the following (subject to their individual consent) form the Committee, with power to add to their number:—Messrs. W. Brown, Butler Bros., P. M. Bright, F. G. Bepler, D. Brosnan, Edwin Clark, E. B. Evans, R. B. Earée, Harold Frederick, F. R. Ginn, M. Giwelb, Harry Hilckes, E. Healey, W. Hadlow, Whitfield King, W. Lincoln, A. Myerscough, W. H. Peckitt, C. J. Phillips, Alfred Smith, Stafford Smith, Gordon Smith, J. Scott Stokes, W. T. Wilson, Winch Bros., and W. A. S. Westoby." Carried unanimously.

After a lengthy discussion, it was resolved that the name should be "The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps."

Mr. Gordon Smith was unanimously elected Secretary.

Messrs. C. J. Phillips, F. R. Ginn, M. Giwelb, Harry Hilckes, J. Scott Stokes and Gordon Smith were elected to form a Committee to draw up rules and bye laws to regulate the Society.

Resolved: "That this meeting is of opinion that a joint Committee of the Philatelic Society and of the Trade is preferable to two Committees, and hopes that the Committee of the Philatelic Society will reconsider this point at their convenience."

Resolved: "That in furtherance of the resolutions of the 6th May, a joint meeting shall be held on Friday, the 17th May, at 4 p.m. Mr. M. P. Castle, on behalf of the Philatelic Society, kindly placed their rooms at disposal for this purpose."

Vote of thanks to the Chair.

For the present, as we announced in our last issue, all communications should be addressed the Secretary, "Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps," 391, Strand, London, W.C.



City of London Philatelic Club.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY*, *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, *The Stamp Collectors' Journal*, *The Monthly Post* (April and May), and *The Connoisseur or Collectors' Journal*.

From Holland: *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde*.

From Austria: *Austria Philatelist* (for Jan., Feb., March, April and May).

From America: *The American Journal of Philately*.

El Monitor Filatelico, *El Heraldo Umbrologico and Ilustracion Filatelica* (from B. Camaschella, Esq.)

Auction Reports from Messrs. Venton, Bull and Cooper and Puttick and Simpson.

A list of works on philately in the Library will in future be published from time to time, and the Librarian will be pleased to send any of them to members on receipt of request with return postage.

(Second list, continued from No. 16.)

No. 10. "No. 1 of the Canadian Philatelic Handbooks," "The Postage and Revenue Stamps of British North America."

No. 11. "No. 2 ditto," "Canada and her Stamp Collectors."

No. 12. "No. 3 ditto," "The Stamp Collectors' Companion."

No. 13. "No. 4 ditto," "The Standard Handbook of Counterfeits."

(Presented by the publisher, L. M. Staebler, London, Ontario, Canada).

No. 14. "Our Catalogue" (presented by the publishers, R. F. Albrecht & Co., New York).

No. 15. "The Postage Stamps of the United States," by Philip Lee and S. A. Wood (presented by the publisher, S. A. Wood, Hanley).

No. 16. "Illustrated Catalogue of all known Reprints," translated from the German by H. Hilckes (presented by the publishers, H. Hilckes & Co.)

No. 17. "The Stamp News Annual for 1895" (presented by the publishers, Theodor Buhl & Co.)

The books must be kept clean and returned within 14 days, otherwise borrowers will be held responsible.

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strand Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of the members at our meetings every Thursday, at Cossavella's, 121, Cheapside, E.C.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP,

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C. (No Meeting on June 13th.)

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JUNE 1, 1895.

. . Between Ourselves . .

A VERY large and somewhat abstruse communication has come to hand from J. A. da Silva, formerly postmaster of St. Thomé and Prince Islands. This circular is surcharged in red, saying that Mr. William Brown, of Salisbury, holds the various documents in the English translation. We have also been favoured by Mr. F. A. Martin, of Lisbon, with a reply to this circular. Furthermore a letter appears in Our Forum from our esteemed correspondent, Mr. C. George, the Vice-Consul for the Netherlands in Lisbon, which latter document gives in pithy form, the "alpha and omega" of the whole dispute. On page 87, of the "S.C.F." (No. 10), we drew the attention of our readers to the speculative character of these stamps. The whole correspondence is far too ponderous even to give an extract, but after carefully reading the whole of it, we fully and entirely endorse Mr. C. George's contention, that the stamps in question are worthless rubbish. The May number of the "P.J.G.B." contains some remarks on this question, which are evidently inspired by Mr. da Silva. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, on the 6th April, absolutely refused to have anything to do with these stamps, and we are somewhat surprised that Mr. William Brown, who must have been in possession of all the facts, should have published Mr. da Silva's version and not Mr. Martin's reply. Some of the translations given by Mr. Silva, in his circular, are absolutely wrong and do not agree with the Portuguese text. These stamps are worse than "gumpaps," and should be severely left alone. H.H.

In his "New Issues" article in the "P.J.G.B." Mr. Skipton quotes our remarks, *re* Abyssinia, in No. 15, of course without mentioning the "S.C.F." Now, in the first place, we wish to mention that before we published those remarks, we had an animated correspondence with Mr. Theodor Haas, one of the most notable philatelic editors on the continent, who in every way agreed with our contention that the envelopes which are now produced as evidence of the Postal character of these Abyssinian stamps, are no evidence at all. We made one mistake in our leader, that is to say, we stated "that the envelope produced by Messrs. Whitfield King, had an Obock stamp;" it should have been a Djibouti stamp. This slip arose from the fact that in France, especially, the terms Obock and Djibouti are very often confounded. We have seen other envelopes some of which, we believe, bore "Obock" stamps. This slip, however, does not in any way alter our facts. We will put the case more plainly. A Mr. A., in Brighton,

makes arrangement with a carrier who often goes to Eastbourne, and whom we will call Mr. B., to carry his letters from Brighton to Eastbourne; such letters would be franked with a Brightonian stamp of Mr. A's own design. Mr. B., on arriving at Eastbourne, purchases English 1d. stamps, with which he franks the letters of Mr. A., and puts them in the box of the G.P.O., for despatch, but no one will say that the Brightonian stamp ranks equally with the English Government stamp. That is always provided the Brightonian stamp actually represents carriage paid. At best, it has a local character and is of no interest to philatelists. If we now transfer Brighton to Abyssinia, and Eastbourne to Djibouti, we have the actual position of the Abyssinian stamps. But we go farther still, we say, an envelope posted, franked and registered in Djibouti, bearing in addition to the Djibouti stamp, an Abyssinian stamp, is no evidence whatever that there is a Postal Service in Abyssinia under Government control. The result of our enquiries are as follows:—Granted everything Messrs. Whitfield King and Co., state is *de facto*, then the Abyssinian stamps are on the same level as the Chinese local. On the other hand, if our contention is right, that is to say, that there is no Government service, then are these Abyssinian stamps not only *not* up to the Chinese locals, but they are on a par with Sedang and similar rubbish. *But in any case, they are not worth attention from a philatelic point of view.*—Q.E.D. H.H.

* * *

On page 126, No. 13, we denounced the above stamps, evidently not to the liking of the prime movers, Fez Sefro as we have since received strong letters from Swindle, various quarters, expressing disgust at our remarks, we therefore think it advisable to give a few more particulars about this issue. The Scott Stamp and Coin Co., of New York, wrote in their issue of the *American Journal of Philately*, dated April, as follows:—

We have received the following letter from a correspondent at Fez:—

Fez, December 12th, 1894.

I am very sorry indeed, that I cannot get you any of the "Fez-Sefro" stamps, but they are only a swindle. I do not know whether anybody at Tangiers has the impudence to sell them, but *the service does not exist*; nobody has ever heard of it in Fez. It is all a delusion.

Fez, December 28th, 1894.

On further enquiry I have found out about the "Fez-Sefro" service, stamps of which I enclose. The affair was gotten up by a young native employed in a German house, who had the stamps printed for him in Germany. The young man confesses with cynical frankness that the service is not serious, and that it is simply a stamp speculation. I maintain my first opinion, *viz.*, that the stamps have no value whatever.

As the stamps are now proven to be humbugs, we shall gladly refund the money for any of these stamps sold by us.

S. S. & C. Co.

Messrs. Whitfield King have since written to the British Vice-Consul, whose reply we subjoin:—

British Vice Consulate.

Fez, May 6th, 1895.

GENTLEMEN,

With reference to your letter of the 22nd inst., I have to say that there is no regular legitimate Postal Service between here and Sefro.

The stamps you refer to are sold by certain Hebrews here, who indeed will forward letters to Sefro, but who do not maintain a regular Service; nor are the stamps sold in Sefro.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

(Signed), J. M. MACLEOD.

And even if all this were not sufficient evidence that the whole issue was worse than speculative, we are now informed by our Ipswich friends, that the voucher envelope which they sent us some time ago, bearing a Fez-Sefro and French stamp containing a request to send some circulars, was evidently a faked up affair, since the circulars sent have now been returned through the dead letter office. It is precisely a case of a Brighton-Eastbourne postal service, as mentioned under the heading "Abyssinia." H.H.

Have you renewed? You will miss No. 19 unless you hurry up with that Eighteenpence.

THE reply (?) of the Philatelic Protection Association to the strictures passed upon it in the Christmas Number of the *FORTNIGHTLY* appears, strangely enough, in P.P.A. the *Stamp Collectors' Journal*. We mean no offence to that estimable publication, whose very age should protect it from the flippancies of youth; but all the same, why was not Mr. F. R. Ginn's interesting letter directed to the *Monthly Journal*, the *Record*, and other leading philatelic journals? Can it be that all these have joined their "esteemed contemporary" the "S.C.F." in agreeing to disagree with the P.P.A. in all that it leaves undone? And the "reply"—for as such it is undoubtedly intended—is of course no reply at all. There is the same old parrot-cry about the obvious undesirability of publishing details of the Association's "work"; there is a piteously forlorn appeal to Mr. C. H. Nunn and his readers for "your continued support and interest," and finally there is—yes! actually there is an instance mentioned of a piece of good work planned and perpetrated by the P.P.A. It is perhaps unfortunate that this particular piece of work—which is the only notable piece of work, mind you, that the P.P.A. has done since the forgery trials—it is unfortunate that the real credit for the whole performance belongs, not to the P.P.A., but to an individual member, who really did the bulk of the work on his own initiative. Had he left the matter in the hands of the Committee of the P.P.A., this "most important advance in the interests of Philately" (as Mr. Ginn rather strangely words it) would never have been achieved. As we read this pitiable appeal to the philatelic public to patronise the old firm, to keep the old gang going in their game of spoof and gerrymander, we feel something akin to pity for the P.P.A. How, indeed, are the mighty fallen. But there is the rascality of it all, the sung hypocrisy, the clumsy shilly-shallying procrastination; and these are things that are hard to forgive. Why not end it all, and reconstruct the P.P.A., or, rather, rejuvenate it; make it the P.P.A. of the Phillips régime when work was done, when abuses were remedied and when things were "seen to." Then shall we have a Philatelic Protection Association that would really protect. P.C.B.

(We wish it to be distinctly understood that we have received no communication whatever from Mr. Fred. R. Ginn, although, since writing the above, we have noticed the same letter in the *London Philatelist*, 30:595, and in a French contemporary.—Eus.)

* * *

We are not great believers in the puff direct, for our paper is run on commercial lines, and we have advertisement columns to fill; but honour where honour is due, even if it spells puffing. It gives us special gratification to read in the latest edition of Messrs. Whitfield King & Co's Wholesale Price List, with regard to the fraudulent labels called Nyassaland stamps, that "as these do not appear to be available for postal purposes, customers who have purchased any of us may return them and we will refund the amount paid for them, or send other stamps to the same value if preferred." We think our Ipswich friends are acting a conspicuously upright and honourable part in this matter, and it would be to the advantage of philately in general if we could say the same of every firm of stamp dealers in this country. P.C.B.

THE NYASSALAND SWINDLE.

THE following important letter reaches us from the Portuguese authorities in London:

PORTUGUESE CONSULATE GENERAL, London, May 28th, 1895.
To the Editors of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

GENTLEMEN,—I am in receipt of a communication from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Lisbon, in which I am instructed to inform you, with reference to your enquiry addressed to the Government as to the validity of certain stamps recently issued, the following, viz.:—(Translation)—By decree of 21st November last, the circulation in the territories of the Nyassa Company of Postage Stamps issued by the Mint was authorised, all modes of franking being, however, subject to the approval of the Government. As, however, the specimens submitted by the Company were not considered worthy of approval, those that were sold in London must be considered illegal.

Yours obediently, FERRIER PINTO, Consul General.

This letter, of course, finally justifies what we said about the Nyassa labels as long ago as the 12th of January. We further learn that the "face value" of the rubbish purchased by Mr. Brown from the company was £135. Perhaps in future our warnings will be better heeded. P.C.B.

Special for the "S.C.F."

Forgers and their Work.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 134.)

NOVA SCOTIA—8½ CENTS GREEN.

AS soon as a stamp rises in value new forgeries are sure to make their appearance. Quite recently, through the courtesy of Mr. Matthews, I have come across a very fine engraved forgery of the above stamp which is sure to make some headway. As the difference, although very distinct, is somewhat difficult to describe, I append enlarged photograph of both the genuine and the forged stamp, a comparison of which will be the surest way to guard against fraud.

It will be seen that the forgery is slightly smaller than the



genuine type. The colour also is much duller than in the original. The distance between "Nova" and "Scotia" is larger in the genuine than in the spurious article. The chief difference is, however, in the perforation, which measures 12 in the genuine and 14 in the forgery. Of course the engraving is not at all as perfect as it should be.

*The Secret Marks of
The Stamps of Switzerland—1843-1854.*

This article was first published in 1893 by A. Larich, of Munich; the author, Freiherr C. v. Girsewald has kindly revised the German work for the special benefit of the readers of the "S. C. F."

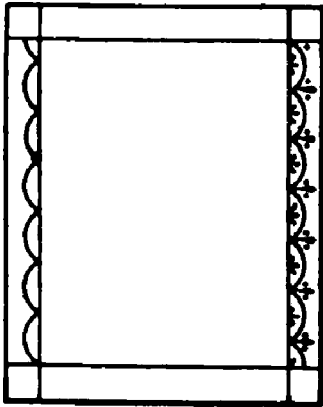
TRANSLATED BY HARRY HILCKES.

AS can be seen from our illustration, type I. has four lines in each corner except in the lower right, which shows three only. Type II. has four lines in each corner. It will be easy to tell from our illustrations how the lines stand in the three other types. We may mention, however, that in type III. there may be a little doubt as to whether the lower left corner has one or two lines. I have adopted two, because these are distinctly visible in unused specimens. Type II. shows another remarkable difference. The upper line of the figure 4 is not straight, but has an indentation, as



can be seen in the enlarged 4 annexed. Between the words "Local" and "Taxe" there is a distinct hyphen which exists in all 5 types. The arabesques which ornament the edges are irregular; in the forgeries they are generally larger than in the originals; on each side 6½ half circles can be counted; on the left side the half circle is at the top and on the right side at the bottom. The paper is yellowish white and some-

what rough. In the forgeries the paper is whiter, and has a glazed appearance.



Even used specimens may be recognized by the number of their corner lines. The best imitation which I have seen so far is one of Type V., in which the corner lines are correctly grouped, but the hyphen between "Local" and "Taxe" is left out. All stamps bearing in the four corners the divided date 1, 8, 4, 3, are of course forgeries. Another difference is that Types 4 and 5 are 1 mm. broader than the others.

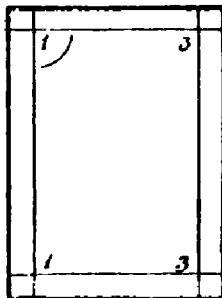
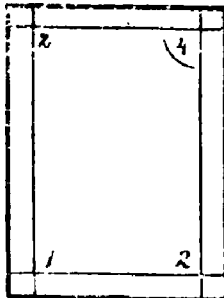
2. 6 Rappen black—Cantonal Taxe (5 types).

In this value the different types may also be recognized by the following sketch, and the genuineness of a stamp be determined by same.

We may mention, however, that in some stamps not very clearly printed, the lines are not always easily counted; thus type I may show 3 lines instead of 4 in the upper right corner; type II., 4 lines instead of 1 in the upper left corner; type IV., 3 instead of 4 in the lower left corner, and type V., 3 instead of 4 in the same place; these doubtful corners are enclosed in a parenthesis in our illustration.

I

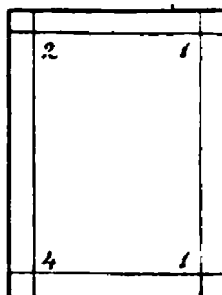
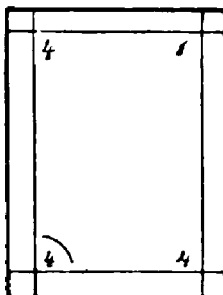
II



III

IV

V



As a special mark type I. has in the upper right corner the two middle lines very close to one another, and in the second group, the fourth line, the longest one appears sometimes as two lines, or as a line of double thickness.

Type II. is the only one in which a period appears after the word Zurich.

The hyphen between "Local" and "Taxe" must never be missing. The paper is the same as in the 4 rappen stamp; the date appears on the forgeries only.



Types IV. and V. are also broader than the other three but the difference is only ½ mm.

The 4 and 6 rappen stamps are 22 mm. high; in the 4 rappen types, I., II., III., are 17.5 mm. broad, and types IV., V., 18.5 mm. In the 6 rappen stamp, types I., II., III., are 18 mm. broad, types IV. and V., 18.5 mm.

The red line surcharge, which can be seen on both values, consist in perpendicular or horizontal lines without any special design; the horizontal lines are very rare with the 4 rappen; it is just the reverse with the Zurich 6 rappen.

The meaning of the inscriptions "Zurich 4 rp. Local Taxe," and "Zurich IV. kp. Cantonal Taxe," shows their use; the first were to be used for town correspondence, the latter for the Canton; the franking was limited to the Canton of Zurich.

(To be continued.)

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING JUNE 15th.

All News for this column must reach the office first post on Wednesday previous to date of publication.

Auction Sales.

June 12.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 & 64, Chancery Lane, E.C., at 6 p.m.

June 13 & 14.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 5 p.m. precisely.

June 15.—Mr. Wm. Hadlow, at 13, Warwick Court, at 2 p.m.

June 11 & 12.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at their rooms, 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 6 p.m.

Tapling Collection.

The following countries are now on view in the King's Library, British Museum: British Guiana (last part), British Honduras, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Falkland Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Nevis, Royal Mail Company, St. Christopher.

City of London Club.

Weekly Meetings at 121, Cheapside, Cossavella's Restaurant, every Thursday, at 7.30 p.m. No Meeting on June 13th.

London Philatelic Society.

Every alternate Friday at Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.

London Philatelic Exchange.

June 4.—121, Cheapside, E.C., Cossavella's Restaurant.

ARTICLES HELD OVER.

The continuation of Mr. W. T. Willett's valuable article, "On Plating Nevis," is held over until our next issue. We are also compelled to hold over a further instalment of "English Stamps Used Abroad," which will appear in our No. 19.

If you don't file your "Fortnightlies," pass this number on to a friend; —

Philately Abroad.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS POSTCARD 2 ON 3c. LIGHT BLUE.

A NEAT little story comes to us from the Straits. When in 1891 the Postmaster of Penang was obliged to issue a few cards with the surcharge "2," the fact that these cards were issued was little noised about and it so happened that most of the cards were generally sold over the counter to merchants in the town, only 292 being so issued. As soon as this became known the town was ransacked for these cards; every likely merchant was questioned whether he had bought any cards on such and such a date and very soon the *whole* number was in five hands with the exception of about 20 which had already been used through the post. One of these speculators who was known to have purchased a good number was favoured with a visit from a young man who offered him 45 of these cards at a bargain price. He was assured they were genuine, as in fact they were, and the transaction being completed he compelled this party to interview the postmaster, there and then, when it was ascertained that this party was a clerk in the printing office of the Government and when the printer's back was turned, had, on his own account surcharged with the genuine surcharging die, the above number. As a reward for his cleverness he was locked up for 3 months at Her Majesty's expense, and the 45 postcards were destroyed by the postmaster. It is a pity that all postmasters do not act so promptly and energetically.

STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ABROAD.

OUT in 'Frisco there is a veritable philatelic pawnshop. A philatelist there advertises his readiness to lend money on collections of stamps.

It is said that the United States will soon adopt the standard colours of the Postal Union for its postage stamps; they are green for the 1 cent, red for the 2, blue for the 5 and orange for the 10.

A PORTUGUESE HANDBOOK.

MESSRS. MATTOS & Co., 81, Rue Garrett, Lisbon, send us a monograph on the stamps of Portugal, a useful *brochure* written in French, with the current prices attached to the various stamps listed.

THE TRUTH ABOUT TOBAGO STAMPS.

Every now and then some unscrupulous dealer offers Revenues of Tobago stamps sale, *postally used*; in many cases out of ten, they are cleaned copies with fraudulent postmarks. The following official document should be conclusive evidence of the actual facts:—

Post Office, Scarborough, Tobago, W.I.,
December 26th, 1894.

I, Arthur Lacy Marshall, Postmaster of Scarborough, do hereby declare in respect of the Postal and Revenue Stamps of this Island as follows:—The year 1879 witnessed the introduction of adhesive stamps, of value 1d., 3d., 6d., 1s., 5s. and £1, of colours respectively, of rose, blue, orange, green, grey, and violet.

These stamps are, shortly, described as follows:—Profile of Queen (Victoria) in circle, 'Tobago' on upper part of circular band, and on lower part of same band, ornaments, at bottom of stamp the value.

All these stamps were available for the purposes of Postage as well as Revenue, and were actually used in such services until during the year 1881, when the Government, to facilitate the keeping of separate accounts for the different services, issued a new series, different from the first series as far as design goes, only in the substitution of the word 'Postage' for the ornaments before described as being in lower part of circular band mentioned.

The denominations of these were, ½d., 1d., 4d., 6d., 1s., the colours being respectively, dull puce, chestnut, green, ochre and buff. From the day of issue of this set, they were declared to be the only stamps available for Postal Service, although,

in error, some of the first set may have actually passed through the Post doing duty for the regular Postage Stamps. The following is a list showing all kinds of stamps, Postage as well as Revenue, which are now current here:—

POSTAGE.		
Value.		Colour.
½d.	.. .. .	Green.
1d.	.. .. .	Rose.
2½d.	.. .. .	Blue.
4d.	.. .. .	Grey.
6d.	.. .. .	Orange.
1s.	.. .. .	Bistre.

REVENUE.		
Value.		Colour.
1d.	.. .. .	Mauve.
3d.	.. .. .	Mauve and Black.
4d.	.. .. .	.. Red.
6d.	.. .. . (Adhesives) ..	.. Blue.
1/-	.. .. .	Sea-green.
5/-	.. .. .	Grey.
£1	.. .. .	Violet.

This is intended to correct the many errors on the part of stamp collectors concerning the above-mentioned stamps and has been written at the instance of a stamp collector and dealer of this town and island.

A. L. MARSHALL, Postmaster,
Tobago, W.I.

It is therefore quite plain that the series with ornaments, printed on the C.A. paper, are not available for postage.

THIS YEAR'S GERMAN PHILATELIC CONGRESS.

The seventh annual convention of German philatelists—the *Deutscher Philatelisten-Tag* as it is called—will be held at Mannheim and Heidelberg from July 13th, to 15th. Pleasure will be mingled with business as in past years, but as yet the programme of the "Day" is not fixed. Something, let us hope, will be said about gumpaps.

SOME GENUINE POSTCARDS—AND OTHERS.

In No. 24 of *Die Post*, I noticed (writes a Mexican correspondent), a so-called warning for those who, in the opinion of *Die Post*, are the *unfortunate* possessors of the non-official envelopes of Mexico (No. 13, Sent, 94) that carry 5c. + 5c. + 5c. + 10c. respectively, in each corner of the envelope. It is true that such envelopes never served in public service, and are very likely a product of some inventive genius with a speculative turn. But as the aforesaid notice may produce suspicion as to genuineness of those envelopes that have 10c. + 10c. + 5c.—in left above, left below, and right above corners respectively—I must say that I know them to be of official source, and to have actually been in circulation, as a few used specimens—entires (No. 12, Sent, 94)—are in my possession.

MAY CAUSE A FALL IN PRICES.

The "Postal Panama" of the Post Office in the City of Mexico (as the great defalcations and shady transactions were called by the local press of Mexico) is still causing some talk among collectors and buyers. The General Administrator of the Post Office of the Federal District of Mexico is still at large—probably living as a country gentleman in Canada—while the officials involved in the same scandal are partly in jail, partly under bail, partly on half pay. Among the latter is a gentleman who had enormous quantities of old unused postal cards, 1882 (Sent, 94, No. 5 and 6), and these cards were, as well as his furniture, embargoed and sealed.

It is probable that, in case this half-pay official should be declared not guilty, he will throw on the market at once the various thousands of above mentioned postal cards, and consequently a sudden drop in the price may be confidently looked for.

THIS MIGHT HAPPEN SOME DAY.

"NAGE," who edits the *Washington Philatelist*, is a staunch anti-gumpapper. Thus he writes in an article dealing with Seebecks:

"This company (Hamilton Bank Note Co. in which Mr. Seebeck is a prime mover) would gladly furnish the United States, or any other country with postal labels on these same terms, and in this

He will be the gainer and you will have lost nothing.

case what would be the effect on philately? *It would be killed as dead as Pharaoh.* Because collectors could only collect used copies, and when it was found that these could be cancelled by Mr. S. *to order by the sheet*, they would cease collecting altogether."

And it cannot be denied that this is sound sense and good reasoning. We think we have again and again said that if Philately dies suddenly, it will be on account of a bad attack of gumpappism.

THOSE U.S.A. COUNTERFEITS.

WE have it on the authority of *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News* that the counterfeits of the 2c. Stamps of the current issue recently introduced into circulation are very poorly executed. "A poorer apology for a counterfeit stamp could hardly be imagined. It is a miserable lithograph, printed in a shade of red unlike any of the regular issue, and in a word is so rank that it is surprising that the discovery was not made sooner. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing has turned out some pretty poor work, but could never be charged with the manufacture of such poor stuff as this."

PHILATELIC (?) JOURNALISM IN THE STATES.

At the risk of being ourselves charged with irrelevancy we must pause a moment to spill a few notes of admiration over an article by "Veritas" in that sprightly paper, the *Evergreen Philatelist*. "Veritas" gently chafes the so-called "philatelic" writers of the United States—the Beardseys and Kissingers and Greens—about their unphilatelic writings. And certainly it is time that somebody protested strongly against the stupidities perpetrated in the name of philatelic journalism by these young knights of the quill. It is suggested by "Veritas" that "The Ways in which leading Philatelic Personages Part their Hair" would form an excellent subject for an up-to-date article.

.. Our Forum. .

*** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only, and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

THE S. THOME PROVISIONAL GUMPAPS.

DEAR SIRs,—In No. 10 of your paper you mention the S. Thome stamps surcharged 2½ reis. I believe a few more remarks on the subject might help to warn your readers, all good "anti-gumpappists" I trust, against these worthless productions.

Their creator, a Mr. J. A. da Silva, ex-postmaster at S. Thome, put out by the philatelic press fighting shy of his productions, has had a paper printed called "La Guerre," in which he tries to prove their "non-gumpappism." He not only fails signally, but proves still further the perfectly superfluous nature of his productions. He says they were never sold to the public, but stuck on to the newspapers at the post office. In this case why did he not employ a hand stamp as they did at Loanda (Angola) where there was a real want of the 2½ reis value, long before the present issue arrived? If provisionals are made, it is for the use of the public, not of the employes.

Mr. Silva publishes letters from a so-called "firm, Mattos & Co.," and a certain Castello Branco, post office clerk here in which these gentlemen, who are no authority whatever on the subject, declare it to be their opinion that the provisionals in question are perfectly collectable, comparing them, however, to the Seebecks, Portuguese Jubilee and other gumpaps. They make out that the official censure Silva received from here and in which his provisionals are called "a mere mercantile speculation," does not refer to the surcharges at all but to the fact of an Englishman having bought 2500 5 reis labels, thereby causing a want of 2½ reis stamps. How it is possible that a want of 5 reis stamps makes it necessary to have stamps of half that value, I cannot make out, but Mr. Silva's French being so very bad perhaps he means something else.

The funniest part of Mr. Silva's ridiculous publication is the following: Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co., having offended him by not wanting to buy his surcharges, he pompously declares that he breaks off all relations with the firm. This will be a serious blow to Messrs. S. G., no doubt.

Another queer part of the paper is that it has a declaration to the effect that the authentic documents are in the possession of Mr. W. Brown, Salisbury, "surcharged" in red across the front page. Mr. S. seems to be suffering from a very severe attack of surcharge mania."

Yours faithfully,

C. GEORGE.

Lisbon, 29th April, 1895.

Answers to Correspondents.

*** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

Hawai (Norwood).—(a) As far as we know, apart from the London Society's work "Oceania," which of course embraces Sandwich Islands as well, no monograph on this country has yet been published in any language.—(b) Your question is not definite enough.

S. Candrian (Venice).—We are not surprised to hear that you are very satisfied at the result of your advertisement, and that various of our readers have already visited you. As we know for a positive fact, that the circulation of the "S.C.F." is the largest in the United Kingdom, with the exception of one other, an advertisement must necessarily have the best possible result.

LOST OR STOLEN.

We have received the following circular for publication:

Between Friday night, 24th May, and Saturday morning, 25th, a small Stock-book with name and address at each end, containing a quantity of Valuable Stamps, including Rare English, 1d. Rose Red Large crown watermark, imperf., unused, with original gum; 2d. Blue small crown, perf. 14, unused, £1 postally used Cape of Good Hope: about 50 fine Specimens, 90 cent. orange United States, including Strips, about 40, 30 cent. Columbus, U.S., 14 or 15 Columbians, 20 Centavos spelt Republica; Quantity of 2½d. I.R. Official English, 2d. and 4½d. Government Parcels, and several hundred West Indian Stamps.

A SUBSTANTIAL REWARD will be paid to anyone returning same to J. LOUIS, 159, Fortress Road, N.W.

Dealers having any of the above offered them will oblige by communicating with J. Louis.

LAST AUCTION SALE THIS SEASON.

MESSRS. VENTON, BULL & COOPER will conclude their more than successful series of Auctions with the sale announced for June 13th and 14th. As some very fine stamps are offered, among others Ceylon, 4d. imperf., unused; New Zealand, a pair of 1d. brown, wmk. N.Z.; New South Wales, 6d., oct., imperf., unused, with gum; and many other rarities, a record attendance is confidently expected.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.		Pages of Two Columns.	
For One Insertion—	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Page	5 0 0	Whole Page	4 0 0
Half Page	2 15 0	Half Page	2 5 0
Quarter Page	1 10 0	Quarter Page	1 5 0
One Eighth Page	0 15 0	One Eighth Page	0 12 6
		Pages of Three Columns.	
For One Insertion—	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Column	1 15 0	Whole Column	1 8 0
Half Column	0 18 0	Half Column	0 15 0
Quarter Column	0 10 0	Quarter Column	0 8 6
One Inch	0 5 0	One Inch	0 3 6

TERMS:—Strictly Cash with Order.

Printed for the Proprietors, HARRY HILCKES & CO., LIMITED, by MESSRS PARDY & SON, Philatelic Printers, 8, The Triangle, Bournemouth, and Published at 64, Cheapside, London.

Never be afraid to write to the Editors of this paper about anything that puzzles you.



THE STAMP

COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1895.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

Class a—Superb condition, if *unused* with gum, (mint state), if *used*, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked *

CONDITION. DESCRIPTION. PRICES REALISED
£ s. d.

(continued from page 21.)

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, May 7 & 8, 1895.

New South Wales. Sydney Views.

ONE PENNY. PLATE II., on wove.

a	Three single copies fetched	£1 8s., £2 and	3	3	0
a	One pair (Nos. 2 and 3) ..	.. ..	4	12	6
b	Two single copies fetched	£1 and	1	3	0
b	Four pairs fetched from £1 16s. to £3 10s., average	.. ..	2	19	9

ONE PENNY. PLATE II., on laid.

a	Three single copies fetched	£2 4s., £1 16s. and	1	12	0
a	One pair (Nos. 6 and 11) ..	.. ..	3	10	0
b	Six single copies fetched from £1 1s. to £1 16s., average	.. ..	1	8	10
b	One pair (Nos. 13 and 14) ..	.. ..	4	7	6
c	Two single copies fetched	£1 2s. and	1	10	0

TWO PENCE. PLATE I.

a & b	Six single copies fetched from £1 5s. to £3 5s., average	.. ..	2	7	2
c	Three copies, slightly damaged, but otherwise very fine, averaged	.. ..	3	2	8

TWO PENCE. PLATE I., retouched.

a	Four single copies, fetched from £1 8s. to £3 12s. 6d., average	.. ..	2	11	5
b	Eight ditto, ditto, ditto, £1 to £3 5s., average	.. ..	1	14	5
b	Two pairs fetched	£2 6s. and	4	12	6
c	One copy (slight hole otherwise fine)	.. ..	1	8	0

TWO PENCE. PLATE II.

a	Thirteen copies, fetched from £1 16s. to £3 12s. 6d., average	.. ..	2	3	0
b	Twenty-one ditto, ditto, ditto, £1 to £2 2s., average	.. ..	1	9	6

TWO PENCE. PLATE III.

a	Four copies, averaged	.. ..	1	0	6
b	Seven .. ..	.. ..	0	17	6
c	Two .. fetched	.. ..	0	18	0

TWO PENCE. PLATE IV.

a	Two copies on wove (Nos. 2 and 3) ..	.. ..	3	5	0
b	Four averaged each	.. ..	0	16	6
b	Six .. laid	.. ..	0	13	8

TWO PENCE. PLATE V.

b	Ten copies averaged	17	0	
b	One pair (No. 11 and 24)	3	0	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
	THREE PENCE.	
a	One copy (No. 9)	2 7 6
b	Four copies, averaged	0 15 0
b	Four pairs, averaged	3 1 6
c	Fourteen copies, including one pair on wove and four single on laid, averaged	0 16 9
	"LAUREATED HEADS."	
b & c	1d. carmine on bluish, no wmk., 40 copies averaged	0 5 2
b	2d. blue, plate 1, on bluish, complete plate of 50 ..	4 0 0
a	ditto, plate 3 (stars), 2 copies (Nos. 38 and 39) ..	2 2 0
b	ditto, ditto, 10 copies averaged	0 15 0
b	3d. green, no wmk., 10 copies averaged	0 3 10
c	ditto, ditto, block of 4 cut into (Nos. 17, 18, 27 and 28) ..	1 5 0
c	ditto, ditto, 6 copies fetched	1 4 0
b	6d. brown, plate 1, 5 copies averaged	0 11 3
b & c	ditto, ditto, 17 copies averaged	0 10 5
a & b	6d. brown, plate 2, 6 copies averaged	0 18 8
b & c	ditto, ditto	0 10 3
b	8d. orange, 10 copies fetched from £1 13s. to £3 3s., average	2 10 0
c	ditto, 15 copies fetched from 16s. to £2 2s., average ..	1 11 3
b	Registered Imperf., 15 copies averaged	0 8 3
b & c	ditto, ditto, 12 copies averaged	0 7 9
a	(1855-1856), 1/- vermilion, horizontal pair	1 14 0
a	ditto, ditto, another vertical pair	1 0 0
b	ditto, ditto, wmk. 8	0 12 0
b	ditto, 2d. blue, block of 4, with gum, but slightly creased *	2 6 0
a	(1888), 5/- violet, wmk. 5	1 12 6
a	(1887-80), 2d. O.S., red surcharge	0 16 0
a	Centennial Issue, 2d. blue, imperf., pair	0 18 0
b	1853-56, 5d. green, imperf. with gum *	1 3 0
a	ditto, 3d. imperf., two shades	1 3 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown, strip of 3 on envelope ..	5 0 0
a	Half of 6d. green, used as 3d. on entire	3 10 0
a	Half of 10c. vermilion, used as 5c., on entire	2 15 0
a	Pacific Steam Navigation Co., 1 real, blue, used ..	4 12 6
c	Peru, ½-peso, rose, mended left side	3 15 0
a	½-peso, yellow	2 0 0
c	Another, heavily postmarked	1 0 0
a	Prince Edward Island, 1d. yellow, two pairs on entire ..	1 0 0
b	Half of 4d. black, used as 2d., on entire	3 15 0
c	Half of 6c. black, used as 3c., on entire	3 12 6
b	Queensland, 1d. vermilion, wmk. Q and crown, imperf. pair, unused with gum (? proofs)	0 18 0
a	1869-76, 2/6 vermilion, unused pair	3 12 6
	ditto, 5/- light brown, ditto	3 12 6
	ditto, 10/- brown, ditto	3 5 0
	ditto, 20/- rose, ditto	4 0 0
a	Spain, 19ctos. brown and rose, perf., horizontal pair ..	2 4 0
1 a 1 b	ditto, ditto, ditto, vertical ditto, *	2 4 0
b	Transvaal, 3d. lilac, red surcharge	0 15 0
1 b, 1 c	Trinidad, lithographed, 1d. red, used pair	3 17 6
b	ditto, 1d. blue	2 17 6
c	ditto, ditto, 2 copies	1 16 0
b	1st issue, 1d. blue	1 7 0
a	Imperf., 6d. green	3 5 0
a	4d. dark lilac, perf. 11½ *	2 15 0
a	Turkey, 1884-86, 25 pres. black and grey, perf. 11½ * ..	2 10 0
b	Turks Islands, type 1, 4 on 1d. red surcharge inverted ..	4 10 0
b	Type 2, ditto, ditto, ditto	4 10 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	United States, 1869, 90c., pair *..	..	9	0
b	Victoria, 1850, 2d. violet, fine background ..	..	3	10
c	1850, ditto, fine border, coarse background *	..	1	12
c	1850, 2d. buff, pair cut into at bottom *	..	2	15
b	1850, 2d. brown-lilac, fine border *	..	5	0
b	Another copy ..	..	1	16
c	1850, 3d. blue, perf., 2 copies ..	..	0	15
b	Queen enthroned, engraved, 2d. brown *	..	1	6
b	Another, with gum, but slightly stained *	..	0	18
a	Ditto, pair and 3 singles, used ..	..	1	12
a	Ditto, litho., complete re-constructed plate and 2 duplicates ..	..	5	0
b	1854, 6d. orange, rouletted, 3 copies averaged ..	..	0	10
c	ditto, serrated perf. 3 sides, serp. perf. top ..	..	0	10
c	ditto, serpentine perf. ..	..	0	8
c	ditto, perf. 12½, perfs. somewhat cut ..	..	0	15
b	1857, 4d. rose, no wmk., imperf. ..	..	1	8
2b 1c	1858, 2/- green, imperf., strip of 3 ..	..	1	6
c	1858, 2/- green, rouletted ..	..	1	2
a	Beaded oval, 3d. lilac-brown *	..	1	4
a	ditto, 4d. rose, rouletted pair on original ..	..	4	0
b	1863, 1d. green, no wmk., imperf. ..	..	0	11
b	1863, 4d. rose, wmk. thin 4, ..	..	0	13
c	1863, 6d. black, wmk. thin 6, ..	..	1	16
c	5/- blue on yellow ..	..	1	2
b	2d. rose on pink, block of 4 ..	..	0	10
b	"Too late," but with slight mark on face *	..	1	10
b	Western Australia, 1st issue, 1/- light and dark brown*	..	2	12
c	ditto, 1/- red-brown ..	..	1	8
b	ditto, 1/- brown, rouletted ..	..	4	0
a	No wmk., 1d. carmine, block of 24 *	..	3	7
c	1d. black, rouletted ..	..	1	0
b	ditto, ditto, used ..	..	2	10
b	2d. vermilion, rouletted ..	..	1	5
b	6d. green ditto, on small piece of original ..	..	3	15

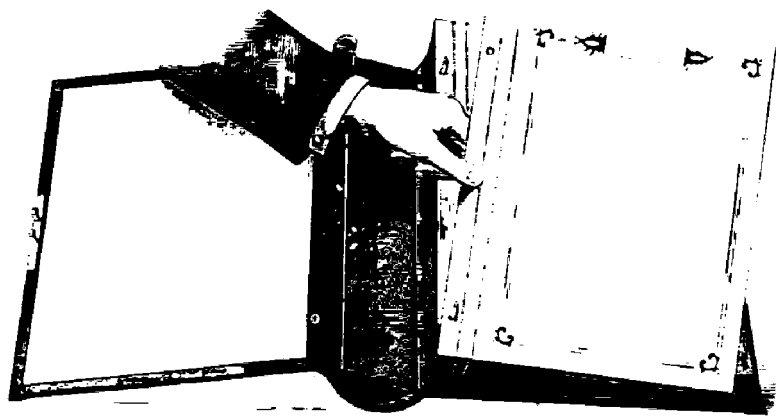
The London Philatelic Co., May 1st, 1895.
(continued from page 21.)

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Victoria, 5/- red and blue *	..	0	16
a	Western Australia, 6d. bronze ..	..	3	6
<i>Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co.'s Sale, April 30th, 1895.</i>				
c	Nova Scotia, 6d. green, no margins ..	..	0	10
b	8½c. dark green, *	..	1	1
b	Oldenburg, first issue, ¼gr. green, *	..	1	16
b	Second issue, ¼gr. green, *	..	4	6
b	ditto, 3gr., yellow ..	..	1	2
b	Third issue, ¼gr. orange, *	..	0	10
b	ditto, ¼gr. green, *	..	1	10
b	ditto, ¼gr. brown, *	..	0	19
b	ditto, 1gr. blue, *	..	0	10
b	ditto, 3gr. yellow, *	..	1	10
c	Orange Free State, 5/- green, pair, postally used ..	..	1	1
c	St. Lucia, green, star wmk., no perfs. at top. *	..	0	10
a	1/- orange, pair, *	..	7	15
a	St. Vincent, 5d. on 4d. brown, block of 4, *	..	0	14
b	Sardinia (1853), 40c. rose, on piece of original ..	..	0	8
a	Shanghai, first issue, 1 cand. blue ..	..	0	15
a	Tobago, 2½d. on 4d. grey, block of 4, *	..	0	12
b	Tolima, first issue, 5c., plate 1, on blue wove *	..	0	13
c	Transvaal, 6d. blue on rose, inverted surcharge, fine roulette ..	..	0	9
b	United States (1869), 90c., vertical pair ..	..	3	14
c	Columbus, 4 dollars, heavy pmk. ..	..	0	13
b & c	Victoria, first issue, 1d. rose, vertical strip of 4 on piece of original ..	..	0	12
b	ditto, 3d. pair, horizontal roulette ..	..	1	3
c	5/- blue on yellow, 2 damaged copies, 29/- and ..	..	2	0
<i>Mr. W. HADLOW, May 11, 1895.</i>				
b	Argentine Republic (1864), 10c. green, imperf., no wmk. *	..	0	12
a	Barbados, 1/- black, imperf. *	..	1	4
b	Bolivia, 5c. violet on violet *	..	0	14
c	Buenos Ayres, 5 pesos, orange, cut at bottom *	..	4	0
a	Ceylon, 96c. slate, imperf., wmk. CC. *	..	0	9
b	2d. maize, imperf., ..	..	0	15
c	Dominican Republic, un real, downwards, on yellow laid paper *	..	3	12
a	Labuan, 16c., CA. sideways. sheet of 10 *	..	2	10
c	Mauritius, Britannia, magenta *	..	0	19
a	50c. green, CC., imperf. *	..	0	8
b	Mexico, Guadalajara (1867), 1 real, white wove, on original ..	..	2	2
b	ditto, ditto, 2 reales, ditto, ditto ..	..	1	10
b	ditto, ditto, 2 reales, green ribbed, ditto ..	..	0	18
a	ditto, ditto, 2 reales, pointed perfs., ditto ..	..	0	18
a	ditto, ditto, 2 reales, green batonné, ditto ..	..	0	16
c	Natal, first issue, 6d. green, cut left side ..	..	0	14
b	1/- green, "Postage" in large capitals ..	..	2	10
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. on white ..	..	1	8
c	ditto, 1d. on blue ..	..	0	18
b	ditto, 2d., plate 1, on original ..	..	1	2
b	ditto, 2d., plate 2, on ribbed, 2 averaged ..	..	1	0
b	ditto, 3d. green, query * ..	..	3	15
c	1/- imperf., ..	..	0	14
b	New Zealand, 1d. orange, on thick paper, *	..	0	17
b	2d. pelure, imperf. pair ..	..	1	6
a	2d., N.Z. wmk., perf., strip of 3 *	..	2	6
c	1/- ditto, roulette ..	..	0	13
a	Pacific Steam Navigation, 1 real blue on blue ..	..	4	4
c	South Australia, P.S. on 10d., on 9d. orange, com- pound perfs., cut one side ..	..	2	2
a	Trinidad, 1/- blue-black, imperf., *	..	1	4
b	Turkey, Unpaid, 25 piastres ..	..	0	8
b	Victoria, Emblems, 1d. green, imperf., wmk. star, *, 11 copies ..	..	2	2
c	ditto, 4d., wmk., star, roulette, 3 copies ..	..	1	4
b	ditto, 4d., laid paper, imperf., strip of 4 ..	..	2	4
c	Beaded Oval, 3d., wmk. threepence, *, 3 copies ..	..	1	8
c	6d. orange, good colour, perfs., cut 3 sides ..	..	1	12
c	ditto, dull colour ..	..	2	2
c	Laureated, 4d., single line 4, imperf. ..	..	0	10
b	rd., wmk. sixpence, 4 copies ..	..	2	0
b	6d., wmk. threepence, 2 pairs ..	..	0	18
a & c	10d. slate, 2 copies ..	..	1	12
c	2 others, perfs. defective ..	..	1	1
b	3d. lilac, no wmk ..	..	0	10
b	Fiscal Postals, £2 blue, 2 pairs ..	..	0	15

(To be continued.)

THE Interchangeable Stamp Albums,

WITH BLANK
MOVEABLE LEAVES.



FOR
ADVANCED COLLECTORS AND SPECIALISTS.

The Latest.
The Best.

WITH A TASTEFULLY DESIGNED
TITLE PAGE PRINTED IN GOLD

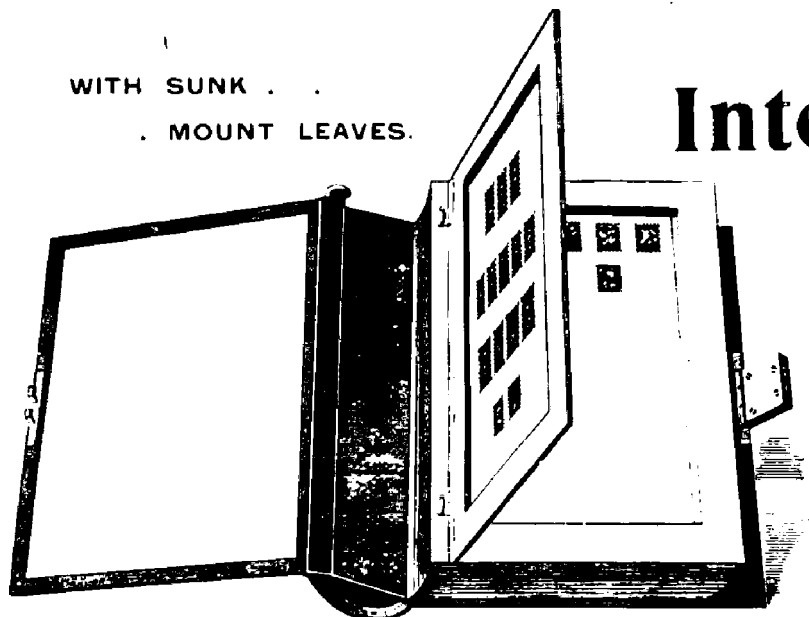
THE binding of this series of Albums is on the well-known "ORIEL" principle, by which, on the sliding of a bar, it is possible to at once release the back, so that any desired re-arrangement of leaves may be made (see illustration), fresh leaves inserted, or damaged leaves replaced, &c. &c. The binding is absolutely secure, and the many advantages it offers to the Philatelist are obvious. Each leaf has a double linen joint that the leaves may lie flat when the book is open. There is an artistic border running round each leaf, with panel at top for inserting name of country. The centre is printed with quadrillé lines of a very pale grey, to enable the collector to insert his specimens with accuracy, while it also affords a pleasing background to the varying colours of the stamps. The leaves have gilt edges.

The "INTERCHANGEABLE" Stamp Albums are of the most convenient size yet introduced, being neither too large nor inconveniently small; each leaf measuring, exclusive of joints, $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches by 9 inches. The covers of all the series are of the same colour, dark green, which long experience has proved to be not only the most popular, but the most satisfactory and durable.

- No. 101. Handsomely bound, half Morocco, gilt decoration on sides, and gilt bands on back, containing 100 stout white paper leaves, packed in cardboard box. Price £1 10 0.
- No. 102. Also bound in half Morocco as above, containing 100 leaves of the very finest quality stout white hand-made paper. Packed in cloth covered box. Price £2 2 0.
- No. 103. Beautifully bound in diced Russia, and decorated with broad and narrow gold lines on both sides, with gilt lettering and gilt bands on back. Fitted with best quality gilt double action expanding lock and key. Containing 100 stout white paper leaves and packed in cloth covered box. Price £3 3 0.
- No. 104. Same binding as No. 103, but containing 100 leaves of the very finest quality stout white hand-made paper. Packed in cloth covered box. Price £3 15 0.

WHITFIELD KING & Co., STAMP IMPORTERS
AND PUBLISHERS, IPSWICH, ENGLAND.

WITH SUNK
MOUNT LEAVES.



Interchangeable Stamp Albums.

— — †-†
NO DAMAGE! NO FRICTION!

†-†



THESE books, which are bound on exactly the same principle as Nos. 101 to 104, have been designed with a view to ensuring the absolute protection of stamps from possible injury by friction, a danger to be specially guarded against in the case of embossed or plate-printed stamps, such as those of Gambia, Portugal, Natal (first issue), Sardinia, &c.

The centre or sunk portion of the leaf is composed of a stout hand-made paper of the best quality, lithographed with quadrille ruling in a pale grey, to assist the collector in spacing his specimens with regularity. The mount, or raised border, is of a very delicate buff tinted cardboard, with bevelled edge to opening, and the back of every leaf is lined with a specially prepared tissue, to further assist in the perfect keeping of the stamps.

No. 105. Handsomely bound, half dark green Morocco, gold lines on side, and gilt bands and title on back, lettered, containing 30 sunk mount leaves with gilt edges. Each book in drop-in cloth cover, lined with a fleecy fabric for protecting the volume. Price £2 10 0.

No. 106. Beautifully bound in dark green diced Russia, and decorated with broad and narrow gold lines on both sides, with gilt title and bands at back. Fitted with best quality gilt double action lock and key. Containing 30 sunk mount leaves with gilt edges. Each book supplied in drop-in cloth cover, lined with a fleecy fabric for protecting the volume. Price £4 4 0.

SPECIAL QUOTATIONS FOR THREE OR MORE VOLUMES.

The leaves of the whole series, from 101 to 106, are interchangeable one with another, and the standard size will always be maintained. The INTERCHANGEABLE STAMP ALBUMS are also adapted for postcards, entire envelopes, crests, monograms, autographs, and many other purposes. We are so satisfied of the thorough excellence of these Albums, that

WE WILL SEND THEM ON APPROVAL

to any address within the United Kingdom, on receipt of a deposit of the price of the book or books required. Customer must of course pay carriage both ways, and if not thoroughly satisfied, return the book *within three days after receipt*, when the amount paid will be at once returned without deduction, provided the Album is in as good condition as when sent.

The weight of each INTERCHANGEABLE ALBUM is under 8 lbs., consequently they can be sent by inland parcel post. When sent by this means, they are well packed in strong brown paper and cardboard cases, but we accept no responsibility for damage in transit. The inland parcel postage is 1/3, which must be added to the price of the Album. We, however, recommend the use of wooden boxes for packing, and in this case the books must be sent by rail, as the weight exceeds that allowed for postal parcels. Strong wooden boxes have been specially made, weighing 5 lbs. each, and for these the charge is 1/- each. Boxes for two albums, 1/6 each; for each additional album, 6d. extra must be sent.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL PARCEL POST. Albums sent abroad by parcel post are packed in the same manner as for inland parcel post. Customers abroad must add the cost of postage of a 9lb. parcel, the rate for which, according to destination, can be ascertained at any post office.

The front side of each Album, and some of the panels on the back, are left blank to allow of names of countries, continents, titles, owner's names or initials, or any other desired inscription, to be stamped in gold. We will undertake any desired lettering of this description at the following charges:—

Any inscription on the back, not exceeding 12 letters, **2 6**; for each additional letter above 12, **2d.**

Initials on front side in large type, 3 letters or under, **1/6**; each additional letter, **6d.**

Any other inscription on front side in small type, 12 letters or under, **2 6**; each additional letter, **2d.**

Albums requiring to be lettered in gold cannot be despatched in less than 48 hours after receipt of order.

Extra Leaves for Interchangeable Albums, all of exactly the same size, can be supplied at the following prices. All with gilt edges and double linen joints.

For Nos. 101 and 103, **18** per dozen, **12** - per hundred.
 102 .. 104, **36** .. **25** - ..
 105 .. 106, sunk mounts, **10** - per dozen, **70** - per hundred.

The size of each leaf, exclusive of joints, is 11½ 9 inches

THE NEW
**Stamp
 Tongs.**



FOR HANDLING STAMPS WITHOUT INJURY,
 AND TO AVOID SOILING THEM WITH THE FINGERS.

Far superior to anything of the kind yet introduced, and less than Half the Price.

They cannot rust, and will not tarnish if put into water; they may therefore be freely used for removing stamps from water in which they have been placed to soak off the paper.

PRICES. No. 1. Nickel plated on hard brass, 1s. 0d., post free 1s. 2d.
 No. 2 Electro-silver plated on solid nickel, 1s. 6d., post free 1s. 8d.

WHITFIELD KING & CO.'S

CELEBRATED STAMP MOUNTS

Are recommended with every confidence to the notice of all Philatelists. After once giving our "MOUNTS" a trial, you will never use any others. Send a Penny Stamp for Samples.

THEY ARE NOT THE CHEAPEST, BUT THEY ARE THE BEST.

For a fully detailed description, see page 25 of our price list. A box of 5,000 is sufficient to mount 10,000 stamps. Prices, either "A" or "B" quality, 1 - per 1000, or 5000 in a neat box for 4 -

READ THE FOLLOWING TESTIMONIALS FROM THE THREE LEADING PHILATELISTS OF THE DAY:

PARIS, *March 20th, 1895.*

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.,
 Ipswich.

DEAR SIRS, - I received the Stamp Mounts that you sent me and was quite satisfied with them. I am happy to give you herewith a sincere testimonial that they are convenient and practical, more so than any others I have ever seen up to this date, and that I shall be pleased to use them for my collection.

Yours faithfully,

PHILIP LA RENOTIERE VON FERRARY.

BRIGHTON, *March 12th, 1895.*

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.,
 Ipswich.

DEAR SIRS, - I have duly received the further batch of 5000 mounts, and can truly testify as to their excellence. The paper is not too thin to allow of the Stamp being removed without sacrifice of the hinge, a very important feature in the case of rare or unused Stamps. It also has substance enough to enable one to write remarks on it, and adheres well to the pages of the book. I consider, in fact, that these Mounts leave nothing to be desired.

Yours very truly,

M. P. CASTLE.

BIRMINGHAM, *March 22nd, 1895.*

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.,
 Ipswich.

DEAR SIRS, I duly received your letter of the 15th inst, also the "B" Stamp Mounts, and have pleasure in saying that I have used these mounts for some two or three years now, and prefer them to any others I know of. I like the size and quality of the paper, and find the gum of uniformly good quality.

Yours sincerely,

W. B. AVERY.

Titles of Countries.

These are labels, strongly gummed, specially printed for heading the pages of the Interchangeable Albums, but also adaptable for any other blank albums. There are no less than 410 in the set, many countries being repeated several times, according to the estimated number of pages required. The names are brought up to date, including such recent issues as Dahomey, St. Marie de Madagascar, Lourenço Marques, Brunei, &c.

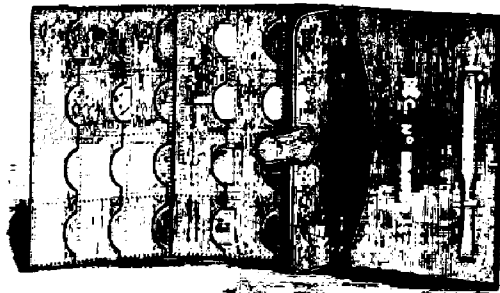
Specimen of type used:— GREAT BRITAIN.

Price SIXPENCE per set of 410, or post free to any part of the world for SEVENPENCE.

THE LATEST NOVELTY.

The Stamp Collector's (Registered.) Pocket Book.

JUST THE THING TO TAKE TO
A FRIEND'S-HOUSE,
AUCTION SALE
SOCIETY MEETING,
OR
CONVERSAZIONE.



A REAL BOON
TO PHILATELISTS.
—
NO COLLECTOR SHOULD
BE WITHOUT ONE.

REGISTERED No. 252670.

THIS has been produced to supply a long-felt want in the Philatelic World, viz.: a portable receptacle specially designed for the absolute safe retention of new purchases, gems or duplicates, and it will be found to fully answer every requirement of the Philatelist in this direction. It is made in flexible leather inside and out, measures 6½ by 4 inches when closed, and being thin takes up very little room in the pocket. The interior contains a series of pockets for the reception of specimens, which when folded up are secured beneath a flap with tuck fastening. There are also full sized pockets for letters, post cards, envelopes or private papers.

Each Pocket Book is fitted with a pair of our "STAMP TONGS" in the position shewn in the illustration. These Tongs are invaluable for use with the pocket book, to assist in inserting the stamps or withdrawing them from the pockets, but for the convenience of those who already have the Tongs, the Pocket Book will also be supplied without them.

Made in two qualities, viz.:—

	Without Tongs.		With Nickel Plated Tongs.		With Best Silver-Plated Tongs.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
No. 1. Best Morocco, containing 36 stamp pockets and three large pockets	10	6	11	6	12	0
No. 2. French Morocco, containing 24 stamp pockets and two large pockets	7	0	8	0	8	6

NOTE:—These prices include postage within the United Kingdom only. If ordered from abroad the postage for a parcel under 1-lb. should be added, but three Pocket Books can be sent for the same postage as one.

WHITFIELD KING & Co., STAMP IMPORTERS AND PUBLISHERS, IPSWICH, ENGLAND.

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**

← **Literary and Fine Art Auctioneers,** →

47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,

WILL HOLD THEIR NEXT

SALE OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

On **TUESDAY** and **WEDNESDAY**, the 11th and 12th JUNE, 1895.

The Collection includes the Property of Brigade Lt.-Col. Surgeon **WILLIAMS**, Vice-President of the Sydney Philatelic Society, and a Valuable Collection by order of the Receiver in Bankruptcy.

Amongst other **VALUABLE STAMPS** will be included :

Ceylon, 2/-, imperf., 8d., star, and 1/-, no wmk., all very fine.
 Naples, 50 grani, fine.
 Oldenburg, 2nd issue, 3 gros., and 3rd issue, 2 gros., fine.
 British Guiana, 1862. provisional, 2 cents.
 Western Australia, 6d. bronze, very fine.
 Hanover, 10 groschen, unused.
 Natal, 1st issue, 6d., on original.
 St. Lucia, 6d. green, star, very fine.
 Nevis, 4d. rose, 1/- blue-green, and 4d., lithograph, all very fine.
 Newfoundland, 6d. orange, used and fine, and others.
 Sandwich Islands, 1853, 5 and 15c., on white, used and fine.

Tasmania, 1d. blue, superb copy.
 Nova Scotia, 8½ cents, unused.
 St. Vincent, 1st issue, 4d. orange, and 1/- brown, unused, with gum.
 New Zealand, 1/-, on blue paper, very fine.
 United States, 1869, 24 and 90 cents, used, and 1 to 90 cents, complete, *without grille*, unused, with gum; and a magnificent lot of Departmentals, comprising—Complete Sets of Agriculture, Executive, Interior, Justice, Navy, Post Office, Treasury, War and State (including 2, 5, 10 and 20 dollars), and 1875 Newspaper Stamps, 2 cents to 60 dollars, all unused, with gum.
 New South Wales, Sydney Views, and some very fine lots of early Australians.

CATALOGUES may be obtained from

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON**, 47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C.

ESTABLISHED IN THE YEAR 1794.

Doings of Societies.

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- LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- SCARBOROUGH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.**
- ROCHDALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- NORTHAMPTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**
- OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

At a meeting held on Tuesday, May 14th, the Rev. H. Cummings completed his paper commenced at the April meeting, on "Papers and Watermarks." A vote of thanks was passed. Ten members were present, including Dr. Murray in the chair, and one visitor.

Names were proposed for membership. The Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. F. Burnett, F.C.S., has resigned his office, as he will be leaving Oxford this month. On the proposition of Dr. Murray, a hearty and unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Burnett for his varied services given to the Society since its formation.

Mr. W. Francis Jeeves was elected to fill this vacancy until the end of the year.

A resolution was passed to the London Philatelic Society, for the steps it had taken to

discourage the collection of unnecessary issues.—F. A. Bellamy, F.R., Met. S., Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

EDINBURGH AND LEITH SOCIETY.

THE usual fortnightly meeting was held in the Hotel Metropole, Mr. Schnepel (President), in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and passed. Mr. Hush read his paper on the stamps of Prince Edward Island. All the known varieties were described in regard to perforations and dots; the stamps of the Colony were also exhibited; they were arranged in a book with a description of each variety. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Hush, and Mr. W. Fish promises a paper on the Wrappers of Argentine Republic for the next meeting, June 3rd.

For Specialists of
PORTUGUESE STAMPS.

Just published, an Illustrated Catalogue of all stamps, cards, &c., of Portugal, issued from 1853 to 1859. All differences of colour, paper, perforations, &c., carefully given. Price, post free, 9d.

Published by
MATTOS & Co.,
Garrett Street, Lisbon, Portugal.

ANY person sending me Postage Stamps for Exchange will receive same amount and quality Swedish in return.

HERMAN LINDFELT,
Karlshamn, SWEDEN.

HOLLAND—BELGIUM.

India, Curacao Surinam.

Photos (CLASSICAL BEAUTIES, SALONS OF PARIS, &c.)

Price List with specimen 1 - (stamp).

"Sanitas" Library, Amsterdam Box. [4

SCOTT'S NEW CATALOGUE

23 POST FREE, FROM

Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd.,
84, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

OLD UNITED STATES.

POSTAGE STAMPS.—15c., 30c., 50c., 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25 of all issues bought at Highest Cash Prices. Send them on approval and receive Cash by return mail. [7

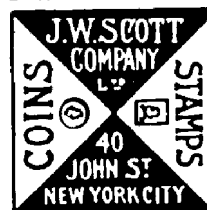
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85, NASSAU ST., NEW YORK.

S. CANDRIAN,

Hotel S. Marco, Venice (Italy).

LOMBARDY Original Envelopes, 1861, complete set, 5/-, Old Italian Stamps, Esterò, English with Col. Postm., &c. Any Real Scarce Stamps taken in Exchange.

(Visitors to Venice should pay me a visit). [1



FIRST & LARGEST
STAMP DEALER
IN THE
UNITED STATES.

Price List on Receipt of P.O.

PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 2d. for every six words, — Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

TO REDUCE STOCK.—50 Varieties, British Colonials for 1/- The surcharged Ceylon alone guaranteed worth more than the money. F. W. FRANKLIN, 31, Exchange Buildings, Birmingham. [1]

WANTED on Approval.—English Used and Unused at reasonable prices.—H. J. BIGNOLD, Dullatur, Mill Hill, N.W. [2]

200 GENUINE STAMPS, all different, post free 1/- Cheap Approval Sheets, or will send on receipt of satisfactory reference, selections of Good Medium Stamps, priced low. Correspondents desired Abroad.—J. LOUIS, 159, Fortess Road, N.W. [3]

UNUSED ENGLISH. Wanted for Collection. Highest references given. Correspondents desired abroad.—Send on approval to Armistead, Colne Road, Burnley. [3]

WANTED. Selections of United States, Newspaper (Warrior), Lagos unused, Ceylon, and N. Scotia, Cash or Exchange. LAKE, 23, Leicester Street, Southport. [1]

NEW BRUNSWICK, obsolete; Van Diemen's Land, 1863 issue, very rare; Panama, Persia, Sarawak, French Morocco, used; Montenegro, unpaid letter stamp; Zululand; Brazil, unpaid; Greece, unpaid, &c. 30 genuine varieties, 1/1. Foreign exchanges desired.—SMITH, Arthur Road, Kingston, Surrey. [2]

OH. RIVERS.—First issue, 1/4, 1d., and 2d., used, catalogued 5/6, only 1 3, set of three.—M. SIMPSON, 21, Alford Street, Edge Lane, Liverpool.

GIBBONS' New Catalogue, 3.6, unused, 5d. Turks Islands, included; 5 lots, 15/-; 14 lots, £2. Prepaid. Homewood, Chichester.

EVERCIRCULATOR. Few more Members wanted. Subscription, 1/- per annum. Particulars, 1d. stamp. G. TRUDD, 21, North Gate, Steaford.

DUPLICATES. British Colonials, Old European, mostly half-price with discount. State number in collection and requirements. Philatelist, 93, Coningham Road, Shepherds Bush, W.

FREE.—55 Stamps, all different. Given Away to all Collectors applying for Approval Sheets and enclosing 1d. stamp for postage. Apply at once to E. WOOD, 9, Hoxton Street, London, N.

GENUINE BARGAINS.—50 Postcards, all different including unused, 2 3. A cheaper assortment, 1/6 per 100. 50 British Colonials, all different, 10d. 150 good Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, all different, including Colombia, Guatemala, St. Lucia, Tunis, 1/-, or 3 packets and Stamp Album for 2 9, post free in United Kingdom only. Stamps and postcards bought or exchanged. Wholesale lists requested. CHAS. THURSTON, 2, Albany Place, Stratford-on-Avon, England.

GRATIS to all mentioning this paper and sending for the following packet, a rare used Natal surcharged half, just issued. 50 different stamps, including Monaco, Djibouti, Portugal, Italy, 1863 (embossed), Bosnia, Japan (15 sent), Egypt, Seguiatass, United States (Columbus), Eritrea, Sweden (official), Tunis, and other excellent stamps, post free, 7d. S. A. TOMES, 24, Fishers Lane, Chiswick.

136 GENUINE VARIETIES, including 13 Japan, Cuba, Porto Rico, 2 Mauritius, Portugal (Journal), Wurtemberg, Brunswick, also an unused Straits Settlements, alone worth the money, for 1/- F. W. FRANKLIN, 31, Exchange Buildings, Birmingham. [3]

EXCHANGE SOCIETY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS. THE LARGEST and BEST STAMP EXCHANGE in existence, conducted on RULES of EXCHANGE (PURE and SIMPLE). Subscription, 1/- per annum. Nearly 200 Members. Full particulars, and all information necessary for New Members, will be sent free on application to The Secretary, Mr. C. FORBES, Hon. Librarian, City of London Philatelic Club, 42, Strahan Road, London, E. Foreign correspondence desired with Dealers and Collectors. [12]

ALFRED SMITH & SON
BATH. [1]

THE May No. of ALFRED SMITH & SON'S Monthly Circular, contains a priced list of a fine collection of stamps on original letters. Post Free to non-subscribers, 2d.

CHARLES MORTIMER'S
SPECIAL WANTS.

LIBERAL PRICES PAID.

CANADA, 10d. blue.
TUSCANY, 60 crazie.
SWEDEN, 3 and 24 skills. bco.
CEYLON, 4d. and 8d.
NEWFOUNDLAND, 6 1/2d. carmine-red.
VICTORIA, 10d. grey.
NEW BRUSWICK, 6d. yellow.
Selections of Scarce Stamps invited on Approval. Prompt Cash Payments.

CHARLES MORTIMER,
2, Killieser Avenue, Stretham Hill,
17] LONDON, S.W.

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PURCHASE STAMPS FOR CASH

To any amount, and pay Highest Possible Prices for same.

Selections of Rare or Medium Stamps at Low Prices sent on receipt of satisfactory References.

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CATALOGUES post free on application.

All lots to be included in any sale should be sent in not later than three weeks before the sale date.

TERMS—10 per cent. on the amount realised, but only 7 1/2 per cent. on lots consisting of a single stamp, pair, or block, and which realise £5 or more. Lots bought in under a reserve price are charged 1/- per lot, irrespective of value.

Record Prices are constantly being obtained at our Sales, and our Charges are the Lowest.

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NEW WHOLESALE LIST, 24 pages, full of quotations for fine Wholesale Stock (no reprints or similar rubbish) Post Free to Dealers only.

We have a number of Priced Books of Old and Desirable Stamps (such as are constantly increasing in value), which we would be pleased to send on approval. The prices will be found very reasonable, as we deal on the principle of

"Small Profits and Quick Returns."

References are required from unknown customers.

1150 COLLECTORS' DUPLICATES to be Sold. Approval Sheets. 25 per Cent. Discount. Member of Globe Stamp Exchange Club.—J. W. MARSDEN, 11, Alpha Street West, Seedley, near Manchester, England.

T. COELHO,

(Late COELHO & FERNANDO).

81, Wightman Road, Harringay, N.

OFFERS OF RARITIES.

Lady McLeod on entire env. £15
Cordoba, 15c. violet, on entire env., on laid paper £15
Brazil, 1st issue, 30r., 60r., 90r., the set £1 15

Approval Sheets against Good References or Cash Deposit.

50 different B. West Indies, post free 4/1
Foreign consignments wanted for Cash.

Correspondence in Spanish, French, Portuguese and English.

Best References given. [6]

Messrs. T. TCHAKIDJI & Co.,

5, Zindjirli Han 5.

Constantinople, Turkey.

MEMBERS of the Birmingham and twenty other Philatelic Societies, offer in perfect condition:

Engl. Levant, provisional, 40 Paras, on Half Penny, on part of Envelope, 15 -

On entire Envelope, £1 10S.

The Stamps are perfectly genuine and, moreover, may be sent to Messrs. Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd., for opinion.

On receipt of 4d. we send our complete Catalogue of Turkish and Oriental Stamps (160 pages).

References: All important Stamp Dealers in England.

This is the address to write to for the Cheapest

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HAROLD CONNE & Co.,

12, Grenville Street,

LONDON, W.C.

A Large Variety of Useful Lines for Dealers.

We buy Large Parcels and Rare Stamps.

Correspondence Invited. [26]

W. B. KIRKPATRICK

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COLLECTORS wishing to see

FINE SELECTIONS

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Should apply early for

APPROVAL BOOKS

Which contain many interesting and scarce varieties at

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List of Rarities sent on application.

W. B. K. has a number of MS. Proofs for Sale.

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who are unable to obtain supplies of the "S.C.F." from their Wholesale Agents, should communicate with the Publishers at 64, Cheapside, E.C.

THE

STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No 19.—Vol. I. SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1895. ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. The City of London Philatelic Club. Rochdale Philatelic Society.
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Sheffield Philatelic Society.

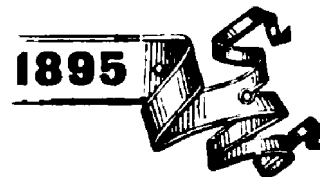
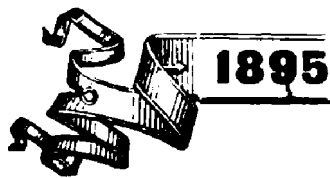
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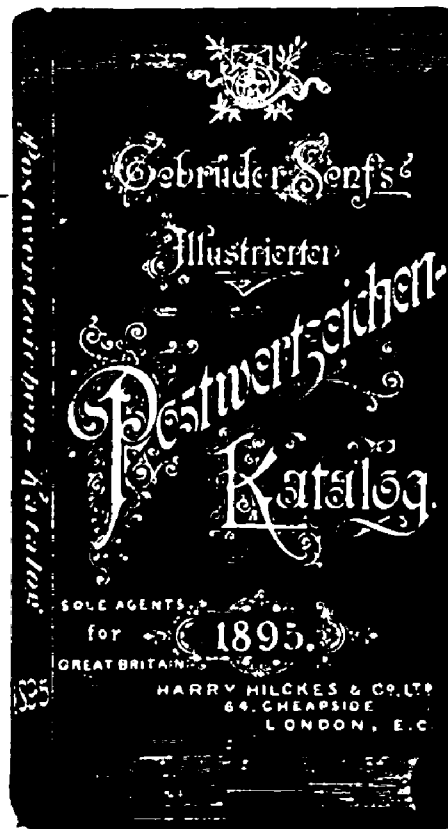
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MR. T. H. THOMPSON

(OF BISHOP AUCKLAND),

(Purchaser of the Leeward Islands and Fiji Remainers),

BEGS to announce that he is removing his BUSINESS to LONDON, and will be located there on and after the 1st of JULY. He will be pleased to see COLLECTORS AND DEALERS who are interested in the above and other RARE STAMPS, at 121, MALVERN ROAD, KILBURN PARK, N.W. All West Kilburn busses pass the door.

Address in future:—

**Mr. T. H. THOMPSON, 121, Malvern Road,
Kilburn Park, LONDON, N.W.**

THE LONDON PHILATELIC Co.,
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W. HADLOW,
AUCTIONEER,
13, Warwick Court, London,
W.C.

SALE 59.

Thursday, June 27th, 1895.

Fine Great Britain, unused.

Seven £5 orange, used.

Fine Asiatic (Indians), unused.

Ten 1 dollar Columbus.

New Zealand: 1d. Pelure paper; Perforated Pair ½ anna red;
the rare Service on 6 and 8 pies; pairs of the rare Service.

Sets of Autilala and Jhend Errors. British South Africa and
B.C.A. Sets £1 to £10 of each, unused, and many other
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(Member of the French & Dresden Philatelic Societies.)

Colombia 1883, unused, imperf., 1c. and 5c.	2/6 pair.
" 1883, " " 50c. and 1 peso.	15/- "
" 1885, 5 to 10 pesos	25/- set.
" 1885, 5 to 10 pesos	25/- "
" 1892, 5 to 10 pesos, used	20/- "
Bolivia, 1867, 10c. brown, used	30/- "
Philippine, 1855, 5c. orange, fine, used	65/- "
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Cuba, 1883, 20c. surcharged 10, error	90/- "
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" " 1f. 25c. without network	2/- "

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THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORNIGHTLY.

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

CONDUCTED BY
HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.

No. 19.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	153
Scientific Philately Made Easy	154
On Plating Nevis	154
English Stamps Used Abroad	155
City of London Philatelic Club	155
Between Ourselves	156
Forgers and Their Work	157
Our Prize Scheme	158
Secret Marks of Switzerland	158
Philately Abroad	159
Answers to Correspondents	160

Philatelic Personalities.

MR. HADLOW had a bad fright the other day. He had been out to lunch—or was it to see a man?—and on his return he found smoke issuing from his premises in Warwick Court. An alarm was quickly given. Up dashed a trio of fire engines and a couple of escapes. For some moments Mr. Hadlow was "a prey to mingled emotions," as Miss Braddon would put it; and then it was discovered that the fiery element had confined its attentions to a heap of refuse in Mr. Hadlow's cellar, leaving his stock of stamps and his auctioneering mallet unharmed.

A PAIL of water extinguished the conflagration; the engines and escapes filed off home, and Mr. Hadlow went out to see another man. And now we want to find the exuberant bouncer who came along to 64, Cheapside, at a run to tell us that Hadlow's place was in flames, that all his rare Queenlands were burnt up, and that there would be no sale on Saturday.

WE are glad it was no worse, that fire at Hadlow's. It would have been nothing short of a calamity had the whole stock of a leading-dealer been destroyed by fire. At the same time there are places within a hundred miles of Warwick Court, places full of gumpaps and cancelled-to-order rubbish, where a really thorough, business-like fire would be as welcome as the flowers in May.

THE Sultan of Johore is dead. He was not a philatelist, but stamp collectors owe him a tribute of reverence as one of the very few rulers of small states who never issued gumpaps. May be, his son, the new Sultan—a youth of 20—will not be so lenient with us.

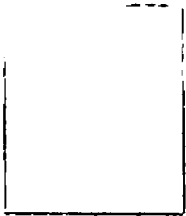
It was remarked by one or two Cheapside philatelists that the Shahzada Nasrullah Khan studied rather intently the artistic notice boards that hang outside the offices of the FORNIGHTLY, when he passed along on his way to the Guild-hall the other day; and now somebody has offered to bet that we shall be having nice new up-to-date stamps from Afghanistan directly the dusky Prince gets back to Cabul. Ameer canard, of course. What Nasrullah really looked at was a group of sweet girl philatelists who had been accommodated with seats at our front window.

If we may believe the *Johannesberg Star*, Mr. Booleman of that city, is the largest stamp dealer in South Africa. Stamp collecting is booming in the Rand district. Mr. Booleman has said it, and he ought to know. Mr. Carl Jeppe, of Johannesburg is a very enthusiastic collector, and so also is Mr. Osborn, Postmaster. But the leading philatelist in South Africa, in Mr. Booleman's opinion, is Mr. Thompson, of Nylstroom, in the Waterberg district.

WE regret to hear from our special Chancery Lane correspondent, that Mr. Cheveley met with an exasperating tumble in the course of a suburban ramble the other day. The genial auctioneer's arm, at last reports, was gently reposing in a sling, and his eye was, not to put too fine a point upon it, darkened in hue. But there are no bones broken, we rejoice to hear.

To Postal Subscribers.

PLEASE find on this space a 10 paras Stamp of Turkey, presented gratis to postal subscribers only.



Will you assist us? You can easily do so.

Scientific Philately Made Easy.

I.—PERFORATIONS.—By DR. BRYANT.

(Continued from page 146.)

And now as to the general history of perforations. The first European Governments to use the new mode of separation were, we believe, Norway and Sweden, followed quickly by Russia. The United States took up the idea in 1855-6 and one by one, or in groups as it sometimes happened, the other States saw the value of the new invention. It is almost needless for us to add that nothing was ever paid to Archer over and above what he received from the British and French Governments. In fact, as his patent ran out in 1862, and as very few countries, comparatively speaking, adopted perforation prior to that date, his machine was quickly constructed and set up. In Paris, Brussels, Stockholm, St. Petersburg, Vienna and other continental centres, machines were constructed for and by the respective Governments. There are now few countries who do not employ this valuable method. Even such little places as San Marino, Montenegro, &c., &c., *ad nauseam*, have gone in for this adjunct to their labels.

Before proceeding to discuss the origin of philatelic measurement of perforations, a few words on certain notable circumstances connected with the introduction of this improvement into certain states may not be out of place.

In France, when the advantages of the perforating machines were recognised, prior to the issue of perf. labels, several firms and companies had initiated for themselves this means of separating postage stamps. Messrs. Susse Frères, a very large firm of stationers and printers, of Paris, patented in January, 1861, and set up a machine capable of perforating stamps, which they purchased from the post office in quantities and sold perforated at a small profit. The gauge is large, *viz.*, 7, but the stamps when separated look more like the Finland stamps in point of style of cuts, *i.e.*, the latter give a large round dent. The curious part of all this is that the famous Susse machine is still in existence in Paris, and that fraudulent "Susses" are being produced therewith. In addition, the Postal Administration had some large quantities despatched to Germany for experimental purposes with the "roulette." These were sold over the counters, but were suppressed in consequence of the experiment being an infringement of Susse Frères' patent. Then varieties are known of these stamps with "perf-en-scie," "roulette-en-pointes," &c., but their origin is, to say the most, very doubtful. The Great Northern Railway Co., of France, the Grand Hotel of Paris, and certain other railways also rouletted on their own account, all the stamps they employed for business correspondence. These are all now scarce, and needless to say, very expensive if on originals. We have seen copies of the 10c. Empire, 1854, with a perforation of 13, and from the date of unoffical origin. We may add that the officially perforated stamps appeared in October, 1862.

With Belgium, although Archer's system was reported on, and laid before the Belgium Post Office, it was decided to wait further developments. To speak more plainly, they grudged the necessary expense attaching to the use of the new method. In 1861, Monsieur Gonweleos began to perforate the stamps of this kingdom, and in 1863, his machine was placed under the immediate control of the Post Office. But when the time arrived for the latter to complete the purchase, nothing was done or offered to be done. De La Rue & Co., of London, had obtained the contract for manufacture of a new series of labels, and were asked to name their price for a machine. 1,500 francs=£60 was the sum asked, and the machine was ordered. On its arrival and examination by a specially appointed Commission, it was discovered by the timely aid of M. Gonweleos, that there were no picks (needles) fixed! No wonder it was looked on as deficient; and it appears the makers had not contracted to supply picks unless an extra 8,000 francs=£323 was paid. The contract was not completed, and in 1867, a machine was constructed at Brussels

in which movable rollers carrying the pickers was fixed, and which has been used up to recently.

In some few instances, owing to the breaking down of machines, stamps have been issued provisionally, minus perforation. This occurred in Wurtemberg, whose labels were printed at Karlsruhe in Baden in 1857, or thereabouts.

(To be continued.)

On Plating Nevis.

BY WALTER T. WILLETT.

[We have prepared a card with photographs of the 4 entire plates (which necessarily show up the various prints much more distinctly). They can be obtained from our Publishers, together with a reprint of this article for 2/6 post free.]

THE SIX PENCE.

This is the most difficult stamp of the set to type, chiefly on account of the colour, which does not show up the design at all clearly. As in the Four Pence, the formation of the hills to the right of the central design is of assistance in plating. In Type II. it is almost horizontal, and in Type X. it is straight and slanting, all the others being more or less broken. The spandrels are filled in with reticulations that vary considerably, as shown in the blocks. The letters in the words "Nevis" and "Six Pence" also vary slightly. In the lithographed series slight marks were made on some of the stamps in transferring the design to the above. In Type II., on the S.E. corner of the label containing the word Nevis, there is a small blot. In Types II., IV., V. and VIII. there are small dots to the S.W. of "N" in Nevis. In Type VI. there is a vertical stroke to the right of V. in Nevis.



THE ONE SHILLING.

The reticulated spandrels here again form an easy way of determining the different types, as also do the loops in the curved bands between the labels containing the words "Nevis" and "One Shilling." Type IV. can be recognised by an accidental stroke made by the engraver against the

second loop from the top on the N.W. side. In type V, the loop on the N.W. side is broken and does not reach the label containing "Nevis." In type VI, the loop on the N.E. side is larger and more pointed than on any of the other stamps.



In conclusion, it is hoped these few notes, together with the illustrations, may be of some slight service to those interested in this country, an interest rapidly increasing if the recent rise in values is to be taken as any criterion.

English Stamps Used Abroad.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 143.)

- C 81
Bahia. 3d. carmine, plate 8.
4d. orange, plate 12.
6d. violet, plate 6 (spray).
6d. dark buff, plate 11.
6d. grey-green, plate 12.
9d. bistre (4 flowers).
1sh. green, plate 4 (4 flowers), 4, 5, 7, 8 (spray).
2sh. blue.
5sh. rose, plate 1.
- C 82.
Pernambuco. 6d. grey-green, plate 12.
6d. violet, plate 6 (spray).
5sh. rose, plate 2.
- C 83.
Rio de Janeiro. 3d. carmine, plate 7.
4d. orange, plates 9, 11, 12, 14.
4d. vermilion, plate 15.
6d. violet, plates 6, 8, 9, 11 (spray).
6d. dark buff, plate 11.
6d. light buff, plate 11.
6d. grey-green, plate 12.
9d. bistre, plate 4 (4 flowers).
1sh. green, plate 4, 5, 7, 9, (spray).
2sh. blue.
5sh. rose plate 1.

*The illustrations are from photographs by Mr. WM. FELDWICKE, Brighton.

- C 86
Porto Plata
(St. Domingo). 1½d. rose-red, plate 3.
4d. vermilion, plate 15.
1sh. green, plate 12.
- C 87
St. Domingo. 1½d. rose-red, plate 3.
4d. vermilion, plate 15.
- C 88
St. Jago de Cuba. 1d. rose-red, plate 106.
2d. blue, plate 9.
4d. orange, plate 10.
- E 88
Colon (Chili). 4d. carmine, plate 14.
4d. vermilion, plate 15.
1sh. green, plate 5, 11, 12, 13.
2sh. blue.
- F 83
Porto Rico
Aguogo). 2½d. lilac-rose, plate 16.
4d. vermilion, plate 15.
- F 84
Aquadilla. 4d. vermilion, plate 15.
10d. brown.
1sh. green, plate 7, 8, 11, 12.
(To be continued).

City of London Philatelic Club.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, *The Monthly Journal*, *The Philatelic Record*, *The Stamp News*, *A Smith & Son's Monthly Circular*, and *Monthly Offers*.

From France: *L'Annuaire Timbrologique*, and *le Revue Philatelicque France* (April and May).

From the United States: *The Post Office*, *Filatelic Facts and Fancies*, *The Washington Philatelist*, *The Metropolitan Philatelist*, *The American Philatelic Magazine*, *The Evergreen State Philatelist*, and the *Rocky Mountain Stamp*.

The Librarian also thanks the publishers, (The Scott Stamp and Coin Co., New York), for Parts 1 to 8 of "A Catalogue for Advanced Collectors," by Messrs. Collin & Calman.

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Stralian Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of the members at our meetings every Thursday, at Cossavella's, 121 Cheapside, E.C.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

DURING the summer months meetings will only be held once a month as follows:—June 20th, July 18th, August 15th, and Sept. 12th. Many new members have recently joined, and there is little doubt that the Committee will be able to recommend the acquisition of a proper club room *open at all times of the day*.—Full particulars will be sent to members as soon as the Committee have decided what steps are to be taken.

THE EXCHANGE SUPERINTENDENT

reports that his packet progresses as favourably as ever.—From the last packet, nearly £60 worth was sold. The only complaint he has to make, is, that *small* balances are generally not paid by members, but simply credited to packet.—If only 10 members omit to pay say 10/- each, thinking it is not worth while to bother about sending the money, one man will be done out of £5.—It would be very desirable, if even small amounts would be remitted promptly.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP,

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JUNE 15, 1895.

... Between Ourselves ...

ETHER with this number or our next (it is impossible to tell which at the moment of writing) we shall

Of Course present our readers with a special supplement You'll Join? in the shape of the statutes of the "S.S.S.S." We take it that every stamp collector in the three Kingdoms knows by this time that "S.S.S.S." signifies the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps; we also take it that a substantial if not overwhelming majority of British philatelists are heartily in sympathy with the anti-gumpap movement. Now, it isn't enough to be in sympathy with the thing. You must go a step or two farther. You must dive down into that particular pocket in which you keep your hard earned cash—or your ill-gotten gains, as the case maybe,—pull out five shillings and at once send it, in postal order form, to the Editors of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, together with an intimation that you wish to be enrolled a member of the "S.S.S.S." That's the way to show that your heart is really in the business. Talking will do no good; we want workers and fighters, and most of all we want the sinews of war.

What is five shillings?—A mere bagetelle compared with the value of your collection! But the outlay of that five shillings, at the present crisis, will certainly save you much loss and mortification in the otherwise certain depreciation of the value of your philatelic investments. If gumpaps are not killed, the interest in stamps will be! On the other hand, check the output of gumpaps, and confidence in our splendid hobby will revive, the ranks of philatelists will be extensively recruited, and the careful, painstaking collector of some years standing will reap the reward which is justly his. We declare emphatically that the man who stands aloof from the "S.S.S.S." at this juncture is no true philatelist. P.C.B.

SOME collectors have a very peculiar way of assisting in the detection of forgeries where their own personal friends are concerned. Twelve months ago, when we first attempted to make enquiries as to the origin of the dozens of

forgeries of the 40 paras, we wrote to all those who had previously offered us these stamps, asking them to send us selections. Among others, we applied to a person who had very largely supplied two of our correspondents with that forgery which we illustrated on page 134 (Figs. 2 to 4). Not single copies, but dozens of them were then offered to us with this individual's initials on the back. About this time last year, the person referred to, offered us four copies, unused, all marked with his initials on the back, two of which

were genuine and two were forged. The former two were kept, the latter we returned, telling him that they were forged. During that time, he supplied large lots to two other gentlemen who are quite willing to come forward, all forged *but duly initialed by him*. When about two months ago, on our second application, we received a further lot from him, we found two very doubtful specimens among them, which we sent to the Post Office for enquiries, as they bear the registration mark of the Constantinople Post Office, on the face. Since then, our article has appeared, and no doubt a copy reached this individual; for he wrote post haste for the return of his stamps, which, of course, cannot be returned till our enquiries are completed. So frightened is this gentleman, lest his name may be mixed up with the disclosures, that he has applied to a member of the London Society, to put pressure upon us, to return the stamps. And when we explained the case to this member, he expressed astonishment at our insinuating that his "dear friend," was accused by us of planting these forgeries. This member of the London Society, knows nothing whatever about the previous case, and that may be his only excuse for not doubting his friend in Constantinople. Whether the latter has sold his stamps knowing them to be forged, or not, is a point which is yet to be determined, but we cannot but express our astonishment that a member of the London Society should be so little inclined to help us in arriving at the truth. H.H.

As long ago as the latter part of March our publishers were in correspondence with Messrs. John Haddon & Co., of Salisbury Square, as to the status of a certain alleged postal system called the "British Inland Mail" of Madagascar. Till now we have held the matter back in the hope of being able to inform our readers definitely as to the status of these labels. Though we cannot yet give chapter and verse for the statement we are convinced that this is once again the old, old story of the gumpap.

But here is the correspondence. It will be noticed that Messrs. Haddon approached our publishers, and not *vice versa*. And, furthermore, the man who can read between the lines will decide for himself what motive actuated Messrs. Haddon & Co. in thus circularising the leading stamp dealers when *the stamps offered by them were being issued for use and not for profit!*

MESSRS. HILCKES & CO., LTD., BOUVERIE HOUSE, SALISBURY SQUARE, FLEET ST., E.C., LONDON, MARCH 26th, 1895.

DEAR SIR,—We have issued, in conjunction with the British Inland Mail, Madagascar, a Stamp for use by this Postal Service; and we think perhaps it might interest you, so we send you along advanced specimens, showing the different values.

You will notice the value is printed in both English and Malagasy. The Stamps of different denominations will be printed in different colours. Yours faithfully, JOHN HADDON & CO.

MESSRS. JOHN HADDON & CO., 64, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C., SALISBURY SQUARE, E.C. MARCH 26th, 1895.

DEAR SIR,—We are obliged for yours of 20th inst., with specimen of new British Inland Mail Stamps. Before, however, taking notice of these stamps, we wish to have answers to the following questions: (1) Under whose control is the Postal Service of the British Inland Mail. (2) Do these stamps pay postage from Madagascar home to England, or are they only available for postage within a limited district. (3) When are these stamps to be issued. (4) What company or what authority receive the revenue for all stamps sold. We enclose a copy of our paper, which gives you the reason why we wish to know about these stamps, and remain, dear sir, yours faithfully,

HARRY HILCKES & CO., LTD. MESSRS. H. HILCKES & CO., BOUVERIE HOUSE, SALISBURY SQUARE, FLEET ST., E.C., LONDON, MARCH 27th, 1895.

DEAR SIR,—Replying to yours of the 26th inst., the British Inland Mail Service of Madagascar is in the hands of English traders. The stamps in question are only available for the interior. The stamps offered you are now being used. The committee who manage these simply pay expenses, and do not run the show with a view to making any profit out of it.

Yours faithfully, JOHN HADDON & CO.

If you want to know how to "make a bit" and help us at the

Special for the "S.C.F."

Forgers and their Work.

By HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 149.)

FORCED 25 PIASTRES TURKEY.

In our No. 5, we drew special attention to this forgery which had been thrown on the Continental markets about twelve months ago. Within the last fourteen days the same forgery has been offered right and left in London, by an English-speaking Turk, and as far as we are aware he has sold quantities to London dealers. That this man should be able to sell a single copy in London, simply proves how careless the average London dealer is in purchasing his stock. We now append once more photographs of the forgeries with the inscription given in our No. 5. The following values which are all printed from the same dies are being circulated:—

- Issue 1876. 25 Piastres, brown violet on rose.
- " 1884-5. 25 " black and grey
- " 1888. 25 " carmine and yellow.

We have seen most of the forgeries of the last issue. Of the 1886 issue 25 piastres brown and grey-brown, no forgeries so far have been met with; there being a very large quantity of remainders left in the hands of dealers.



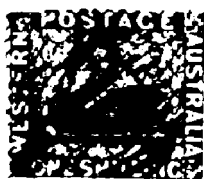
FORGERY.

GENUINE.

The "S" in "Piastres" is the best and surest test. In the genuine stamp the top is larger than the bottom, and the whole letter leans to the right, as if on the point of tumbling over. In the forgery, however, both parts are of the same size, and the "S" leans backwards to the left. The lettering on the whole is much thinner, and the colours much brighter. The perforation, however, is very nearly correct.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA 1 Sh. YELLOW ERROR.

ANOTHER forgery, which happily, owing to the extreme rarity of the genuine stamps, is not much to be feared, is the one of which I append a photograph:



GENUINE.



FORGERY.

The lettering in the forgery is much more straggling and mis-shaped,—notably the "G" in Shilling. The tail feathers of the Swan are also badly drawn. The stamps are printed from a copper plate and bear the same characteristics as mentioned in a previous paper respecting the Ceylon 1s. 9d. green.

Of course, having made the plate, there was no difficulty in printing some copies off in the real colour green, which were circulated, unused as well as duly postmarked. The colour, however, is too deep and full, and the postmark altogether different to the one generally used in the colony.

NAPLES 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 CRANO.

In No. 12, I published particulars of the $\frac{1}{2}$ Crano and the $\frac{1}{4}$ Torneseo Naples. I have now come across a

complete set of the remaining values also done by the same "faker." They are of most excellent workmanship, in fact, far more excellent than the original stamps—which very fact betrays their nature. The forgery is printed on a very hard machine-made paper, whereas the genuine stamp is of course only on soft pliable paper of a rather uneven texture. It is also little known that the paper of the original stamps shows



a watermark in the entire sheet, which of course the forgery does not. Another very little known fact is the secret mark near the value, mostly on the right side; a very strong magnifying glass will show up pretty plainly, they can then be distinguished as the various letters of the alphabet which indicate the positions of the various stamps on the plate. These letters have also been imitated on the forgery, but as mere specks only. In any case, I feel sure that a microscope would always enable one to determine between a genuine and a forged stamp. Although the outward finish of the design is much better than the real stamp, a closer examination reveals the fact of hurried workmanship; the lines, although well defined, are not clearly cut and are of an uneven nature, which seems chiefly the result of bad material on which the forgeries were engraved. As in the case of the $\frac{1}{4}$ Torneseo stamps, each stamp has been separately engraved on the plate; therefore it is useless to photograph the genuine stamps as a means of comparison, but if any doubtful stamps closely resemble those illustrated above, they must be forgeries. I may mention that the colour of the imitations is of that rare hue which is so seldom met with in the original stamps, but which is the real colour of the stamp. Ninety-nine out of every hundred of the original stamps, however, have a faded appearance, which in this case seems to be a good safeguard.

The forgeries of the above six stamps are all engraved on one plate and printed on the same piece of paper, therefore it is quite possible that our friend the "fakir" will be able to supply wonderful errors of pairs of two different values.

Auction Sales.

THE last sales of this season do not show a decline in prices anywhere, which once more prove the soundness of stamps as an investment:—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson disposed on May 30th, of the fine collection of stamps formed by Colonel Leckie. Amongst the best prices realised were—Bahamas, 1d., £2 18s.; Canada, 6d., grey lilac, unused, £9; ditto, 7½d., green, unused, £6 6s.; Cape of Good Hope, rare wood block error, 4d., red, £32; Ceylon, 6d., on blue paper, £5 5s.; Mauritius, 2d., blue, £6; New Brunswick, 6d., yellow, unused, £20; ditto, 1s., mauve, unused, £36; the same, used, £13; Newfoundland, 6d., scarlet, £7 10s.; ditto, 1s., carmine, £16; first series of Portuguese Indies, £11 10s.; Sierra Leone, 6d., violet, £8.

Our Prize Scheme.

To give our readers one more chance we hereby postpone the "latest date" for our grand prize competition to September 21st, next, on which day the "S.C.F." completes its first volume. We again issue the competitors' form, upon which the names of subscribers must be entered.

THE SPECIAL FEATURE OF THE COMPETITION

is that *everyone gets a prize*, provided he secures not less than six subscribers, which would be an easy matter to most readers. The following rules and general hints should be carefully perused by intending competitors:

(1) The subscriptions obtained must be each for a period of six months—twelve numbers, post free 1s. 6d.—and in every case payment must be in advance.

(2) Competitors need not wait until the time for the termination of competition to send in their lists, but may send in as soon as they get six subscribers, enclosing at the same time 9s. cash in payment therefor.

(3) The competition is by no means restricted to those who subscribed to the *S.C.F.* by post. The reader who buys his copy at his newsagents has an equal chance with the postal subscriber.

(4) The subscriptions obtained must, of course, be those of *new* subscribers—that is of persons whose names have not yet figured in our subscription ledgers.

Now for the prizes, which will be awarded on the following scale:—All competitors obtaining six new subscribers (at 1s. 6d. for twelve numbers, post free), will be credited with

A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION

(twenty-six numbers) to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. We may mention here that in the case of a competitor being already a subscriber, his prize subscription will of course date forward from the expiration of his existing subscription.

All competitors obtaining twenty-four new subscribers on the same basis, will receive a prize of FIVE SHILLINGS cash, in addition to a year's free postal subscription to the *S.C.F.*

Finally, the competitor who books the greatest number of subscriptions with a period of eight weeks from this date will receive a

PRIZE OF £2 2S. CASH,

in addition to a prize of 5s. cash for every set of twenty-four subscribers comprised in his grand total. The winner of this top prize will also be credited with a year's subscription on his own account.

Now we think everything is clear; and we hope our readers will do their level best to double or treble our subscription list. The advantage ultimately will be theirs, for the better the support we get the better the paper we shall produce.

It will be our endeavour to *make the rewards proportionate all through*. Thus a competitor who secures more than six new names, but fails to reach the twenty-four will be rewarded proportionately.

All those who do not quite understand the particulars here given are invited to communicate with the Competition Editor, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C. To save time, querists are advised to enclose a stamped envelope, in which a prompt reply per post will be sent.

F. H. (Liverpool).—There is no catalogue issued which gives all minor varieties of U.S.A.

J. E. (Goswell Road).—Thanks for your interesting communications, but as you will have read, a Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps has now been formed under very distinguished auspices. You and your friends, we take it, will be eligible to join this body and assist in the good work.

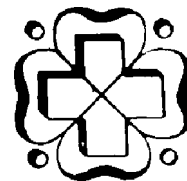
The Secret Marks of The Stamps of Switzerland—1843-1854.

[This article was first published in 1893 by A. Larich, of Munich; the author, Freiherr C. v. Girsewald has kindly revised the German work for the special benefit of the readers of the "S. C. F."]

TRANSLATED BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 150.)

This design was used as a cancellation mark, and it resembles closely the first English Maltese Cross postmark. Those stamps cancelled in the city of Zurich had the obliteration printed in red ink; those cancelled outside the city boundary had it in black. The red cancellation is by far the commoner one. The genuine mark is of a blood-red colour; in the counterfeits it is more of a lilac shade and only a small part is ever visible on the stamp.



Occasionally this mark appears in blue; then we find stamps bearing square and local stamps with PP. and black lines; these latter stamps are those which were used after 1849; the 4 rp. then represents the value of 2½ rp. and the 6 rp. that of 2 × 2½ rp. Two specimens of the Zurich IV. and Zurich VI. hanging together are very rare; there are a few instances in which a Zurich IV. and a Zurich VI. cut in two were accepted by the Post Office as a 6 rp. franking.

Specimens without the linear surcharge are met with, but are by no means rare; the absence must be chiefly attributed to chemical influence; still it is also possible that a whole sheet was placed on sale before it had received its surcharge. These stamps, unused, are mostly very poorly printed, which leads me to believe that they were only essays.

[It has recently been discovered that a few sheets were reprinted previous to destruction of plates by the Post Office, but these are not surcharged with the red lines—C. v. G.]

B.—CANTON OF GENEVA.

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| | October, 1843. |
| 1. 5 + 5c. dark yellow-green and black. | July (?), 1845. |
| 2. 5c. yellowish-green. Small eagle. | January, 1847. |
| 3. 5c. yellowish-green. Large eagle. | December, 1848. |
| 4. 5c. dark green. Large eagle. | |
| 1. 5 + 5. dark yellowish-green and black, the so-called "Double-Geneva." | |

This last stamp, consisting of two 5c. stamps, was intended for postage within the Canton of Geneva, which fact is shown by the upper inscription running across the top of both halves. Each separate half could be used for city postage, a fact which is indicated by the inscription "Local" underneath each half. This double stamp is one of the great Swiss rarities, and is much sought after, especially on the entire envelope. We frequently find two single halves to represent the double stamp; this "make-belief" generally betrays itself by its two cancellation marks, while the genuine double stamp bears but one. We also find double stamps with a cut reaching as far as the upper inscription; this arises from the fact that the postal clerks, in order the quicker to serve their clients, cut these stamps beforehand to sell them as distinct halves, but also sold them as doubles when called for.

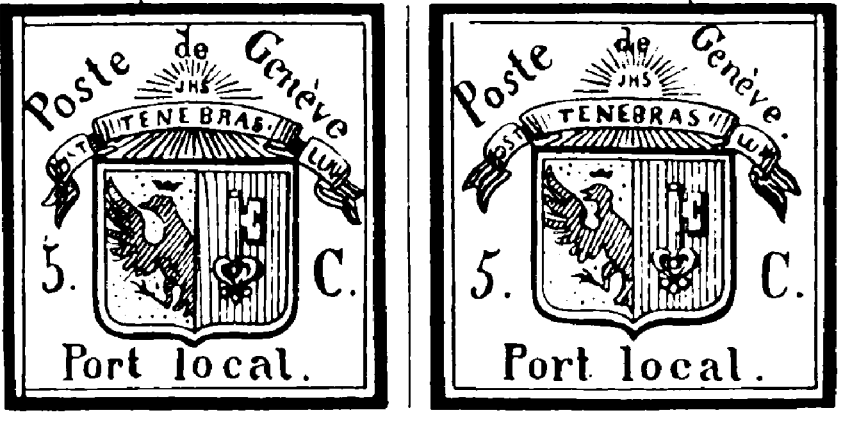
To recognize a double stamp as genuine, the following points must be borne in mind; they can be clearly seen in our enlarged illustration.

1. The left stamp is 0.7 mm. narrower than the right one.
2. The scroll bearing the inscription and situated above the coat of arms touches the right framing line of the right stamp. The other end of the scroll stops considerably short of the same line of the left stamp.

It pays to advertise in this paper.

3. The inscriptions "Poste de Genève" are different in both stamps, the "d" especially being quite different: in the left half this "d" looks like a "1," the top touches the frame line (a) and the ray of the star of the design barely touches this word; on the right stamp the "d" is formed regularly and there is a space between it and the frame line (a). There is a period after the word Genève only in the right half.

10. PORT CANTONAL. Cent



In this same right half, the initial letter "G" touches the frame line, while it does not do this in the left half.

4. The crown of the left stamp is farther down the neck of the eagle than in the right. On the right stamp one can find only one dot between the wings and feet of the bird, while on the left half three such dots are visible.

5. We can count eleven vertical lines in both coat of arms with the key; on the right half, these lines are parallel; on the left they are not so regular. In fact, the first one, on the left of the observer reaches below the coat of arms.

6. The left scroll with the inscription "Post Tenebras Lux" is more curved than the right one, leaving in consequence a broader space between it and the framing line.

7. It is important to notice that both eagles touch the coat of arms with the end of their wings. They do not do so in counterfeits.

8. But the best way to tell the genuineness of a double Geneva is by observing the frame lines of both halves. We can notice a thicker outer and a thinner inner line. The first thin vertical line on the left touches the thick horizontal line above and below. The last thin vertical line on the right touches the thick horizontal line above only. In the right half stamp a small part of the inner frame line is missing, so that an opening is visible.

(To be continued.)

Philately Abroad.

THE STAMP GAMBLE IN NATAL.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Petermaritzburg, March 29th.

ABOUT three weeks ago the Government of this Colony having run out completely of ½ penny postage stamps had occasion to issue to the public, for purposes of postage, certain 20 year old revenue stamps of the value of 6d. with these words printed across the face "Postage" and "Half-Penny" the former word at the top of the stamp and the latter words at the foot, and further had to erase the word "Sixpence" appearing at the foot of the stamp. As soon as the public here knew of the issue of these stamps there was a great rush on the stamp so altered and the postal authorities sold all these stamps in less than a week, the value of stamps so sold at their reduced value being the sum of £450, the number of stamps being 264,000. These stamps have been

issued in sheets of 120, and these sheets are now being sold in this Colony and the adjoining one and States at the sum of £7 per sheet. The block of the original stamp has long since been destroyed, and there is no possibility of there being a further issue of these stamps. There are now buying orders here from London requesting Brokers and Dealers to purchase some for the Home Market.

In each sheet of 120 stamps there are about five errors on five different stamps, the errors in two cases being "E" instead of "H," in two cases "u" instead of "n" and in one case "v" instead of "y"; these stamps with errors on them are now selling at £1 1s. apiece, to get the errors separately it means the whole sheet has to be destroyed; this sellers are not willing to do, because the sheets as a whole fetch a much higher price than if the stamps are sold separately.

I have seven complete sheets and purpose holding on to them, because it is believed here that the same will go up to at least £12 before another two weeks. The single stamp, so defaced, is selling here to-day at the sum of 2 6.

HOW THE GAMBLE WAS STOPPED.

THE Government of Natal had at last to put a stop to the gamble in these surcharged stamps. The Postmaster-General began to sniff danger to the smooth working of his department. If he over-printed any more stamps, other values would run short, and this was a serious difficulty indeed, threatening a most inconvenient hiatus in business generally. But the worthy man exemplified an administrative ability which did him honour. He caused a notice to be published to the effect that as the Government had reason to believe that the abnormal public demand for the over-printed half-penny stamps was of a purely speculative nature, warning was given that the Department intended to issue *large quantities of stamps similar to those already issued*. The consequence was that the majority of the million and a half over-printed half-penny stamps held by enterprising philatelists came back again on to the public market, and at Oh! so cheap! But the ready tact of Natal's Postmaster-General really deserves recognition from high places. Whether the colony was flooded with the *large quantity* promised or not we do not know, but probably the orthodox half-penny stamps arrived shortly afterwards, when, of course, the Postmaster-General would have no further grounds for interfering with the purchase of the over-printed stamps. They would, probably, have served their legitimate purpose by that time, and have entered upon a philatelic stage with which the authorities had no concern. But the move was smart—very!

A POSTCARD'S LONG JOURNEY.

EIGHT years in transit! The *Bombay Times* gives a postcard which, posted in Madras on January 4th, 1887, was delivered in Bombay a few days ago. The history is in postmarks. Addressed to a firm in Mount-road, in Madras, the obliterating stamp is dated "Vepery, 4 Jan., '87." The next stamp bears the words "First delivery, Mount-road, 5 Jan. '87." The card then acquired the legend, "Not in Mount-road," and back it went to the chief office, whose stamp it bears. A number of initials on the card and a multiplicity of postmarks indicate that it had several times been sent out after this to find an owner, and a rough hole in the centre suggests that the postmaster, a careful though despairing man, was eventually compelled to file the document for reference. On April 24th last there was evidently a "Spring Cleaning," in the Madras Post Office, for the card was then withdrawn from the file and the bold words, "Try Bombay," added to the many legends on the side which is intended only for the address. Bombay is accordingly tried, but not before another effort has been made to deliver the message at Mount-road. It reaches Bombay on April 28th, and the words "Fort, Bombay," find a place among the other inscriptions; and so, after its long hibernation, the message reaches a well-known firm of Bombay photographers. The eight-year-old message runs as follows:—"I would be much obliged if you would take my daughter's photo on Thursday morning. I leave Madras on Friday morning." That photograph, alas! was never taken.

You may have noticed that when a man comes into our advertising columns he stops in.

RARE STAMPS GIVEN AWAY.

THE "philatelic reception" is the latest, across the pond. Mr. and Mrs. Mix, of Portland, Maine—a very philatelic city—have recently given a reception of this sort. Mr. W. K. Mix's fine collection was displayed for the inspection of the guests, and each one in addition was presented with a souvenir containing a portrait of the genial host and a rare unused stamp. It is safe to predict a great measure of social popularity for Mr. Mix, especially if he goes on giving "philatelic receptions" and distributes rare stamps each time.

CLIPPERTON ISLAND STAMPS.

An envelope containing a complete set of stamps, ten in all, was sent to us [without any letter whatever] all duly postmarked, *W. Freese and Co., San Francisco*, in the gutter, the centre showing the inscription, Agents for O.P. & Co. As the design is such a peculiar one, we annex an illustration. The various values are of a different design, which, however, are all very similar to the value illustrated. We will refrain from making any uncharitable remarks on this series, but the sooner our friends in San Francisco will let us have particulars the better we shall like it, but certainly we shall not invest in these, till particulars come to hand, and not even then perhaps.

**IMPORTANT RESULTS OF A FIRE IN SAMOA.**

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING & Co., are informed by their correspondent in Apia that a great fire raged in that town in the early days of April last, which destroyed, among other things, the Post Office and nearly all the stamps on hand. The postmaster has, in consequence, been forced to use up a few surviving sheets of 1/- stamps by cutting them diagonally and using the halves for almost any amount of postage. We have seen a letter franked with such a half-stamp indicating that 6d. postage was paid; but, as a matter of fact, only the letter fee, 2½d., and registration fee, 2d., was required. However, as the postmaster has only 1/- stamps on hand, he is evidently compelled to use the halves of these for all amounts under 1/-. There is not the slightest doubt that this is the most genuine provisional that ever emanated from Samoa.

COUNTRIES NEGLECTED BY SPECIALISTS.

In a paper read the other week before the London Society, Mr. Robert Ehrenbach descanted upon "Fashions in Stamps," and spoke of the way in which certain countries are all the rage and certain other countries are left out in the cold. "I will just mention a few" (said Mr. Ehrenbach) which might repay anybody largely the trouble of working them up—countries to suit every purse, and may it be hoped also everybody's taste. Of the cheaper countries I should name Chili, Greece, Dutch Colonies, Egypt, Spanish, and Danish West Indies. These are all very straight-forward, and there is no humbug with surcharges or collectors' issues about them. The Perkins-Bacon issues of Chili are as pretty stamps as any I could name, and their shades, paper, and watermarks afford enough material for quite an elaborate study, considering how little is still known about them."

MORE PHILATELIC POPULATIONS.

We have had varying estimates of the philatelic population of the United Kingdom; and now an American dealer, of experience—Mr. Rothfuchs, of Washington—comes forward with an estimate that there are quite 600,000 stamp collectors in the States. Almost at the same moment somebody in Canada calculates that 21 persons out of every thousand in the Dominion are interested in philately.

STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ABROAD.

SEVILLE is looking up. Following the formation of a Philatelic Society in that city comes a promising paper, *El Heraldo Timbrologico*, issued by Mr. A. Pulin, a local dealer.

We have received from the publishing office of Emile Grimand, 4, Place du Commerce, Nantes, the first "Annuaire" of the Société Nouvelle de Timbrologie, whose President is Dr. A. Legrand. The book, in addition to an

interesting record of the year's work, gives a useful list of new issues. It is satisfactory to note that the Nyassa "stamps" are dismissed in one line. "Les timbres de la Cie., Nyassa ne paraissent pas sérieux," writes Dr. Legrand. Good!

THE *Bay State Philatelist*, the newest stamp journal out, is published by the Drown Stamp and Publishing Company, of Mattapan, Mass. "Drown" is an ominous name, but the *B.S.P.* looks too smart a paper to go under.

DAHOMEY is to have stamps of its own, our French friends say. So far the Dahomeyans are in blissful ignorance of the fact, but that's mere detail.

Answers to Correspondents.

** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

Miss E. (Winchfield).—We are always pleased to hear from our readers that the "S.C.F." has proved of use to them, but when you say that you had gained more information from the "S.C.F." during the six months of its existence, than you learned in the 10 years previous to its birth, we actually blushed. Please don't write that again; blushing is a most painful disease to those who like the editors of this journal are not used to it.—(a) Your Shanghai are forgeries. (b) Yes, unfortunately reprints are postmarked in many cases. Sometimes legitimately so, but more often fraudulently. It is almost as easy to forge a postmark as to reprint the stamps. Stamps returned, 21/5 95.

P.B.R. (Brighton).—Of course, it is a matter of taste whether or not one ought to collect English stamps according to plate letters. Many people find it most fascinating to hunt for these, and certainly there is as a good reason to try to reconstruct a sheet. A little useful Album with guide has been published (6d. post free from our Publishers) by Messrs. Hadow & Morley, which we feel sure would be a great help to you.

E.A.B. (Oxford).—A very exhaustive work on Persian stamps (in German) has been published, price £3, post free.

O.F. (Bradford).—Many thanks for your card. You are quite right, the Hawaiian stamps are not mentioned in "Oceania." As a master of fact no *exhaustive* work has so far been published.

A.M.K. (Sandown).—Turks Island 6d. yellow brown and 1 sh. brown are still in issue.

St.S.B. (Wimbledon).—It is hopeless to absolutely identify your stamps; but we have a shrewd suspicion that it is one of Liberia 21 20. Fiscal stamps are very unsaleable, but why not risk a shilling (6 lines) advt. in the *S.C.F.*?

BACK NUMBERS.

We have still Complete Sets left in Stock at the uniform rate of 14d. each, post free, but as we are running short of No. 3 we have raised the price to 3d. per copy for that number.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.—Pages of Two Columns.			
For One Insertion	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions	£ s. d.
Whole Page	5 0 0	Whole Page	4 0 0
Half Page	2 15 0	Half Page	2 5 0
Quarter Page	1 10 0	Quarter Page	1 5 0
One Eighth Page	0 15 0	One Eighth Page	0 12 6
Pages of Three Columns.			
For One Insertion	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions	£ s. d.
Whole Column	1 15 0	Whole Column	1 8 0
Half Column	0 18 0	Half Column	0 15 0
Quarter Column	0 10 0	Quarter Column	0 8 6
One Inch	0 5 0	One Inch	0 3 6

TERMS.—Strictly Cash with Order.

Printed for the Proprietors, HARRY HILCKES & Co. LIMITED, by MESSRS PARRY & SON, Philatelic Printers, 8, The Triangle, Bournemouth, and Published at 64, Cheapside, London.



THE STAMP

COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1895.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

Class a—Superb condition, if *unused* with gum, (mint state), if *used*, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked *

CONDITION. DESCRIPTION. PRICES REALISED
£ s. d.

(continued from page 23.)

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, May 15 and 16, 1895.

b	Antigua, 6d. green, imperf., *	6 5 0
a	Belgium, 10c., imperf., wmk. I.L., no frame *	1 10 0
a	Brazil, first issue, 60 reis, block of 4 *	2 2 0
b	Bremen, 2gr. yellow, percé en scie...	1 2 0
b	3gr. black on blue, ditto	0 18 0
c	Another	0 11 0
c	5 sgr. green, imperf.	0 11 0
a	10gr., perf., *	0 16 0
b	British Columbia, 1 dollar, green, perf. 12½	2 12 6
c	British Guiana (1860), 1c. rose *	1 10 0
b	ditto, 2c. orange, perf. 12 *	0 19 0
b	Canada, ¼d., perf.	0 17 0
c	7¼d. green	0 16 0
b	10d. blue	1 1 0
c	Another, cut into at sides	0 12 0
a	Another, *	2 10 0
b	17 cents, blue, 10 copies	0 13 0
c	Cape of Good Hope, ¼d., wood block, 3 averaged	1 7 0
a	Ceylon, ¼d. rose, star, perf.	0 17 0
b	9d. brown, ditto, ditto, 2 copies	1 2 0
b	5d. purple-brown, CC.	0 17 0
c	Colombia (1864), 5c. orange, pair, tête beche	0 16 0
a	Confederate States, Baton Rouge, 5c. *	1 11 0
a	Denmark, 2 rigsbk sk., 2 copies	1 0 0
a	Dominica, 6d. orange, CA., pair *	0 16 0
b	1½. CC.	0 15 0
a	1½. purple, CA.	2 2 0
b	France, newspaper, 5c. lilac, error	0 6 0
c	French Colonies, 4c. grey	0 16 0
b	Great Britain, 1 - salmon, plate 13 *	0 8 0
b	2½ - red-brown, "specimen"	0 16 0
b	£5 on bluish, "specimen"	1 3 0
2b 1c	Hanover, 3pf. green, imperf., 3 copies on original	1 13 0
a	India, ¼a. red and blue, pair cut square with blue divisional line	1 15 0
b	Italy (1863), 15c. blue, head embossed twice	0 6 0
b	Labuan, 12c. rose, surcharge 8 in black	0 16 6
b	ditto, "Eight Cents," ditto *	0 12 0
c	Montserrat, ¼d. blue, CA...	3 10 0
a	Naples, 50 grano, lake *	4 17 6
b & c	Natal, first issue, 3d. rose, 2 copies	0 16 0
b	Nevis, 1d. lake on bluish *	1 7 0
c	Another	0 16 0

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
a	Nevis, 6d. lilac brown on bluish	2 4 0
b	6d. grey	1 14 0
c	1 - yellow-green, corner mended	2 8 0
b	1 - green, engraved, perf. 15	1 12 0
a	New Brunswick, 3d., 2 copies and a half on piece of original	1 1 0
b	The Connell, a proof	2 0 0
b	6d. yellow	2 12 0
b	1 - mauve, light shade	17 0 0
c	Another, deeper shade, cut close and heavy postmark	5 10 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. carmine-vermilion	1 19 0
c	4d. orange-vermilion	£1 14s. and 1 15 0
b	6d. carmine-vermilion, cut close	3 0 0
c	6d. orange-vermilion	0 18 0
a	8d. carmine-vermilion *	1 1 0
b	5d. reddish brown	0 12 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. on bluish	1 9 0
b	ditto, 1d., plate 2, pair on original	3 15 0
b	ditto, 3d. green	1 14 0
c	ditto, another, cut very close	0 13 0
c	5d. blue-green, perf. 12 *	0 12 0
a	5d. green *	0 10 0
a	Diadem, 3d. green, wmk. 6, pair *	1 8 0
a	Registered, imperf.	0 16 0
b	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue paper *	3 0 0
b	3d. blue, star, roulette	1 5 0
b	6d. brown, star, thin paper, pin perf.	1 12 0
a	1 - blue-green, imperf.	0 12 0
c	Oldenburg, second issue, 2gr. black on rose *	0 19 0
a	ditto, 3gr. black on yellow	£1 15s. and 2 2 0
c	ditto, ditto, 2 cut copies	16s. and 1 5 0
c	Third issue, 4gr. brown, cut into	0 15 0
b	ditto, 2gr. red	0 12 0
a	ditto, 3gr. yellow, 2 copies on original	2 5 0
b	Pacific Steam Navigation, 1r. carmine, laid paper	1 4 0
b	Queensland, 1d., imperf.	0 17 0
c	2d., imperf., fine margins, but somewhat thinned	7 10 0
b	1d. orange-red, wmk. script *	1 4 0
a	St. Lucia, 6d. green, wmk. star	1 15 0
b	6d. blue, C.C., perf. 12½, *	0 13 0
a	¼d. black and green, C.C., block of 4 *	1 8 0
a	Sarawak, 1c. on 3c., brown on yellow, imperf., vertical pair	0 8 0
a	Saxony, 10gr. blue *	1 5 0
b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r.	4 15 0
c	Poste Locale, 2½r., border line, pair	1 5 0
c	Tasmania, 1d. blue, cut close, penmark	1 3 0
c	1d. brick-red, no wmk., on peltire	0 11 0
b	Trinidad, 1 - blue-black, perf. 12	0 12 0
b	United States (1851), 5c. red-brown, imperf.	£1 1s. and 1 8 0
a	(1855) ditto, perf.	0 10 0
a	(1861) 5c. red-brown	0 16 0
b	(1868) 90c. blue, grille	1 5 0
a	(1869) 2½c.	0 18 0
b	ditto, 30c. *	1 9 0
a	ditto, 90c., unevenly centred	2 4 0
b	Columbus, 5 dollars	£1 and 1 1 0
b	Treasury, complete	0 18 0
b	War, complete	0 11 0
c	Wurtemberg, first issue, 18kr.	0 14 0
b & c	18kr. blue, 2 copies	1 6 0
b & c	18kr. yellow, 2 copies	1 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.	CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.			
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.			
<i>Mr. W. HADLOW, May 17, 1895.</i>								
a	Antigua, 2½d. red-brown, C.C.	1 0 0	b	Spain, Madrid, 1 curato bronze	1 12 0			
a	1/- violet, C.A.	0 18 0	b	(1850) 10 reales green, thick paper	2 10 0			
b	Bahamas, 1d., imperf.	1 10 0	b	(1851) 6 reales blue	1 5 0			
b	£1 red-brown	1 0 0	b	ditto 10 reales green	0 18 0			
a	British Columbia, 25c. orange, perf. 12½	1 10 0	a	(1853) 2 reales, scarlet	6 0 0			
c	British Guiana (1850), 4c. blue, mended	1 0 0	c	(1854) 2 cuartos green, cut into at top	1 7 0			
a	(1860) 1c. red-brown	2 2 0	a	ditto, 6 reales blue, pair	1 6 0			
b	Another, used	1 5 0	a	(1865) 19 cuartos brown and pink, perf. on piece of original	1 18 0			
b	British Honduras, 2c. on 6d., perf. 12½	1 12 0	a	(1868) blue surcharge on 19 cuartos pink	1 2 0			
c	3c. on 3d., perf. 12½	4 0 0	a	ditto, ditto, on 19 cuartos brown	1 6 0			
a	6d. orange	2 0 0	a	ditto, black surcharge on 19 cuartos pink	0 18 0			
a	1/- grey	2 0 0	a	ditto, ditto, on 19 cuartos brown	1 8 0			
b	Canada, ½d. carmine, perforated	0 15 0	c	Trinidad, neutral on blue	0 14 0			
a	½d. imperf.	1 1 0	a	Blue on blue	1 2 0			
a	6d. violet-black	0 18 0	a	1d. carmine, no wmk., perf. 11½	0 18 0			
b	6d. violet on grey paper	0 17 0	a	4d. plum, no wmk., perf. 11½	1 12 0			
b	7½d. green, cut close	1 8 0	c	Turks Islands, 1/- prune, perfs. cut right side	5 10 0			
b	10d. blue	1 18 0	b	United States, Post Office, 5c. black	1 1 0			
c	Ceylon, ½d. on blue, imperf., no wmk., cut close	0 14 0	a	(1851) 5c. brown, imperf.	1 4 0			
b	4d. rose, imperf.	7 12 6	b	(1855) 90c. blue, perf.	2 2 0			
a	8d. deep brown, ditto, fine margins and colour	21 0 0	a	(1861) 5c. mustard	0 18 0			
a	9d. violet-brown, ditto	3 10 0	b	ditto, 90c. blue, grille	0 18 0			
a	1/- violet-blue, ditto, on piece of original	1 0 0	b	(1869) 24c.	0 19 0			
c	1/9 green, ditto	2 6 0	a	ditto, 90c.	2 2 0			
c	2/- blue, ditto, slight tear	1 10 0	b	Another	1 18 0			
a	4d. rose, star, perf., postmark "A 87"	1 8 0	a	24c. purple	0 18 0			
b	Another, ordinary pmk.	0 17 0	b	Executive, 2c.	0 18 0			
a	8d. deep brown, star, perf.	3 7 6	a	Periodicals, 60 dollars	3 0 0			
a	5d. red-brown, no wmk.	1 2 0	b	Uruguay, Diligencia, 1 real, carmine	1 0 0			
a	9d. deep brown, no wmk.	1 5 0	b	ditto, 80c. green	1 0 0			
c	1/- deep violet, no wmk.	0 16 0	a	Virgin Islands, 4d., surcharged on 1/-	1 0 0			
b	2d., the rare green shade, C.C.	1 10 0	c	6d. rose, perf. 12	0 15 0			
c	5d. dark red-brown, C.C.	1 2 0	b	ditto, perf. 15	4 0 0			
b	Another, lighter shade	1 2 0	a	1/- double-lined frame	3 6 0			
a	9d. yellow-brown, C.C.	0 11 0	b	1/- thin border, imperf. ? proof	1 12 0			
a	Fiji, 5/- pair	0 13 0	a	Western Australia, 6d. bronze, on piece of original	10 0 0			
a	Hanover, ½gr., with network	1 6 0	b	1d. black, roulette	1 0 0			
a	½gr., with network	6 0 0	b	6d. violet-brown on bleuté	1 3 0			
a	10gr. green	3 10 0	<i>Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co.'s Sale, May 22nd, 1895.</i>					
b	Mexico, 3c. brown, eagle, date and town * but no gum	4 10 0	a	Barbados, 5/- lake, not well centred	1 12 0			
a	Natal, 1/- green, Postage with capital P	3 5 0	a	Bolivia, 5c. violet, penmark, 2 copies	1 0 0			
b	3d. blue, no wmk., pair	0 9 0	a	50c. dark blue, penmark	1 14 0			
c	Nevis, 6d. grey-lilac, perf. 13	1 4 0	a	British Guiana (1851), 1c. magenta	4 0 0			
b	ditto	2 4 0	b	British Honduras, 6d. yellow, with blot	1 14 0			
a	1/- green, perf. 15	1 10 0	b	Ceylon, 4c. grey, perf. 12½	1 0 0			
c	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	1 4 0	b	Gold Coast, 20/- green and carmine	3 12 0			
c	Newfoundland, 2d. orange-vermilion	1 10 0	a	Great Britain, 2½d. lilac-rose, plate 15, block of 4	0 15 0			
a	ditto	1 4 0	a	6d., plate 17, spray * pair	1 1 0			
b	2d. carmine-vermilion	1 1 0	a	8d. brown	3 17 6			
b	4d. orange-vermilion, 2 averaged	1 12 0	b	9d. straw, plate 4. 2 * copies	0 13 0			
c	6d. orange-vermilion, cut close	5 0 0	c	1/- green, circle round "K"	1 2 0			
b	6d. orange-vermilion	1 2 0	b	ditto, plate 6	0 15 0			
b	6½d. carmine-vermilion	9 10 0	a	£1 marone, 3 crowns, vertical strip of 3	9 0 0			
a	8d. carmine-vermilion	1 2 0	a	Guatemala (1882), 2c. brown and green, centre inverted	0 15 0			
a	ditto	0 18 0	b	Labuan, 12c. carmine, CC.	1 3 0			
c	1/- lake, cut at bottom	0 10 0	a	Mauritius, 6d. green, no wmk., imperf. pair	1 0 0			
c	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., plate 2 * but stained	6 6 0	a	1/- buff, ditto, ditto	0 15 0			
b	ditto, 2d. deep blue	0 19 0	a	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CC., 3 copies	1 0 0			
b	Registered, wmk. 6	0 13 0	c	Nevis, 6d. litho, bad crack	2 6 0			
a	New Zealand, 1/- green on bleuté, wmk. star	0 18 0	b	6d. litho	7 15 0			
a	Nova Scotia, 8½c. green	1 4 0	b	6d., perf. 13	2 6 0			
c	Another * but some perfs. missing	0 14 0	b & c	ditto, used pair	2 2 0			
b	Odenburg, second issue, ½gr.	6 10 0	a	1/- green, perf. 13	2 0 0			
a	Third issue, ½gr. moss green	4 4 0	a	ditto, engraved, perf. 15, 2 copies averaged	1 11 0			
a	ditto, ½gr. brown	1 10 0	a	1/- mauve	2 0 0			
c	ditto, 2gr., margins but slight tear	1 4 0	b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	2 12 0			
a	Prince Edward's Island, 3d. blue, perf. 9	2 2 0	a	Newfoundland, 4d. orange-vermilion	1 14 0			
b	Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf.	2 0 0	b	5c. brown, seal, 2 * copies averaged	1 0 0			
b	2d. blue, margin on side and bottom	0 18 0	b	New South Wales, laureated, 1d., pair with "WALE" on original	1 14 0			
a	St. Christopher, 6d. olive, C.A.	2 17 6	c	ditto, 8d. yellow on original	2 15 0			
b	1/- violet	1 1 0	c	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue	1 2 0			
b	St. Lucia, first issue, 4d. blue	2 6 0	a	Nova Scotia, 6d. light green	1 8 0			
b	ditto, 6d. green	3 0 0	c	1/- purple, no margins	10 10 0			
b	Second issue, 6d. green	0 17 0	b	8½c. green	1 2 0			
b	1/- orange, C.A.	1 16 0	a	Peru, 1 dinero green, centre inverted	1 14 0			
a	St. Vincent, 4d. ultramarine, wmk. star	2 8 0	a	St. Lucia, 1/- black and orange	3 7 6			
b	4d. orange-yellow	1 18 0	b	St. Vincent, first issue, 4d. yellow, 2 copies averaged	1 11 0			
a	4d. blue, wmk. C.A., perf. 12	3 0 0	<i>(To be continued.)</i>					
b	4d. red-brown	3 0 0						
b	South Australia, 4d. deep violet, wmk. star, perf. 10	1 16 0						

Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly PRIZE COMPETITION.

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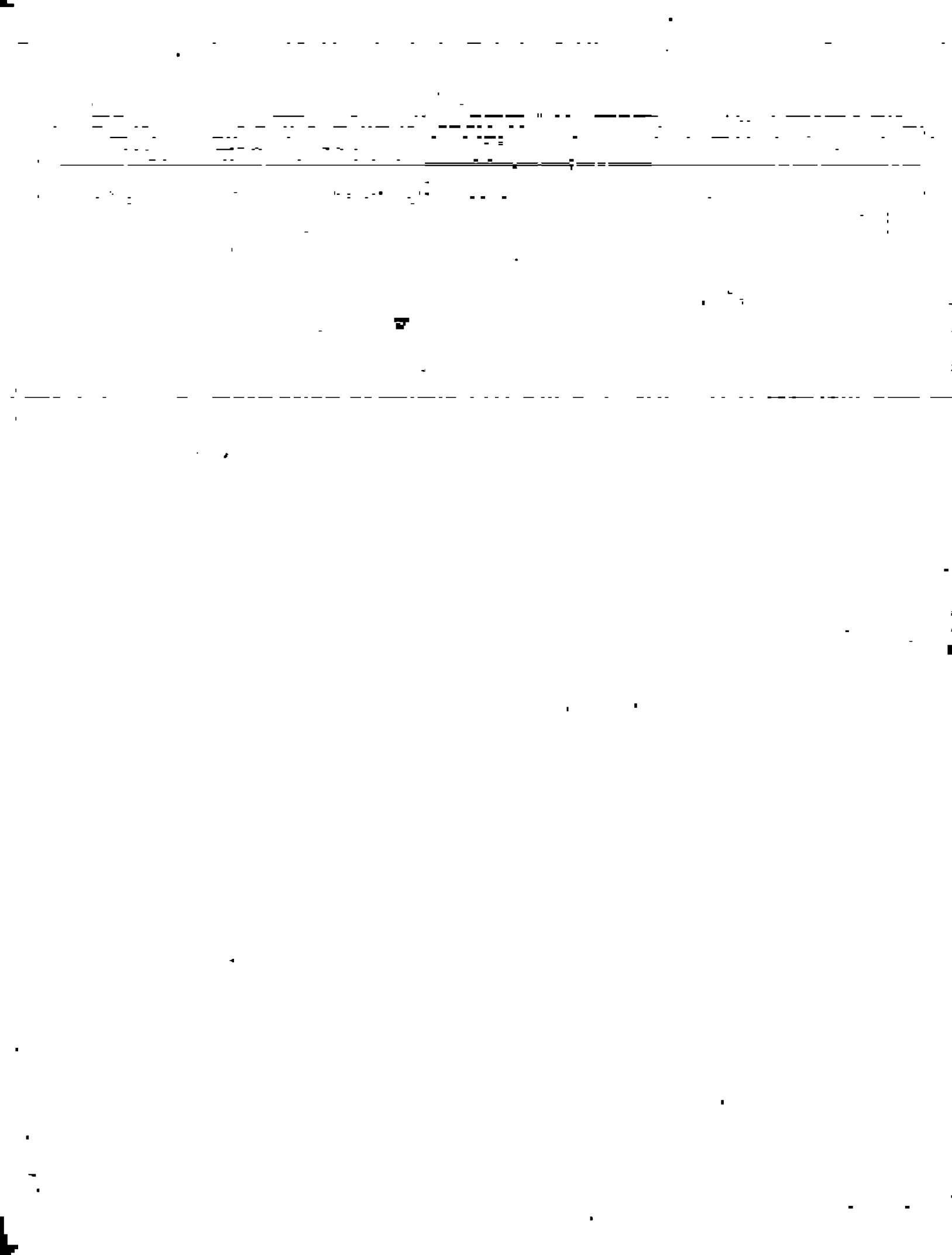
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At the twentieth meeting, on April 5th, Mr. M. P. Castle read a paper by Captain Morris Newman on Cape Stamps, dealing with the early history of the Post Office of the Colony. April 26th. Four new members were enrolled. Mr. Bacon read a paper entitled "The Queen's Head," being an article taken from an old magazine, printed in 1852, in which the methods employed at that date in the production of the stamps of Great Britain were fully explained. Amongst other interesting information contained in this early article, as a matter of Philatelic interest, was the statement that the die for the red adhesive was engraved by Mr. Charles Heath, and not by Mr. Frederick Heath, who received the payment for the work.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The first annual meeting of this Society was held on Tuesday, May 7th. There were fourteen members in attendance. Mr. Oliver Firth, the President, occupying the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the Hon. Secretary, gave a short report, of the position and doings of the Society during the past session. He stated the Society consisted of twenty-three members; that eight meetings had been held, with an average attendance of members of a little over ten; that papers had been read by Mr. Atkinson and the Hon. Secretary, the former on "The Stamps of Great Britain," and the latter on "Watermarks and Perforations;" and that displays and discussions had taken place on the Stamps of Germany, Nova Scotia, and the United States, and a discussion on "Specialism v. General Collecting."

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE fifth annual meeting was held at 9a, Princess-square, Plymouth, on June 5th, the President (Mr. A. R. Barrett) occupying the chair.—The whole of the retiring officers were re-elected, and cordial votes of thanks passed for the services rendered by them during the past session. Mr. Miller was elected member of the committee.—The Hon. Secretary's report showed an increase of members, and gave a summary of the doings of the society, details of which have been already published.—The Exchange Secretary (Mr. H. Tucker, Jun.) reported a large increase in the business of his branch, caused by the admission of those residing out-side the Three Towns as corresponding members.—It was resolved to make a presentation to Mr. William Earl, as a mark of appreciation by the members of the services rendered by him to the society.—We are requested to state that those desirous of becoming members of the society can obtain copies of the rules and all particulars by application to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Asher Levy, 190 Union Street.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE last meeting of the Session 1894-5 of this Society was held on Wednesday evening, May 29th, in the Central Café, High Street. The President, G. H. Hunt, Esq., occupied the chair, twelve other members being present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Secretary and adopted. Notices of motion—proposed by Mr. Hunt, "That we adjourn our usual fortnightly meeting until the first Wednesday in October." Seconded by Mr. Chapman and carried. Proposed by Mr. Brammel, seconded by Mr. Pike, "That in order to allow for the holiday season, no further Exchange Packets be circulated until the month of August, and then only one in each month respectively."

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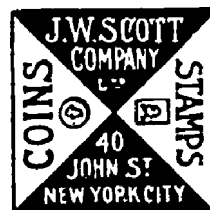
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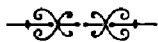
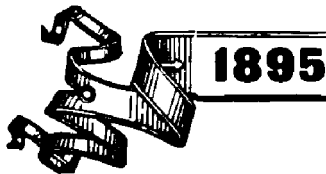
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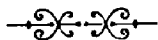
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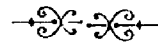
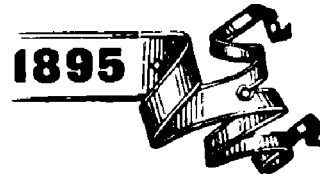
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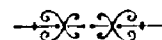
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No. 20.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	161
Scientific Philately Made Easy	162
English Stamps Used Abroad	162
Philately at Home	163
City of London Philatelic Club	163
Between Ourselves	164
Reprint Catalogue (Second Edition)	165
Philately in India	165
Secret Marks of Switzerland	166
Philately Abroad	167
Rambling on the Continent	167
Answers to Correspondents	168

Philatelic Personalities.

PERHAPS the chief sufferer by the exposure of the worthless character of the so-called 5c. U.S. "error" is Mr. John K. Tiffany. The Mekeels seem like to suffer in cold cash, but Tiffany loses something far more valuable—his reputation as an expert. "Money talks" we know, but fame talks better.

FOR long years Americans have looked upon the St. Louis lawyer as an absolutely infallible judge of stamps. That was a mistake of course; but do we not all make mistakes? To err is human; to forgive divine. Mr. John K. Tiffany by this latest blunder, and by a certain previous mistake which caused a heavy loss to the Scott Stamp Company, has proved himself very human. The question now is whether the many American collectors who gave \$30 a-piece for these discredited "errors," mainly on the recommendation of Mr. Tiffany, will be sufficiently "divine" to forgive that gentleman his unfortunate slip.

THE fact is, we philatelists practise a little too freely the art of hero worship. It is good, of course, to have eminent men in our hobby, men we may look to for help and guidance; but to trust such men with blind implicitness—that is bad. No man will ever be infallible. Equally true is it that a man regarded as infallible will occasionally blunder as bad as a schoolboy. The so-called 5c. error—the "5c. printed in the colour of the 4c."—is now shown to be nothing more nor

less than a vulgar changeling, a mere example of "oxidisation." Yet it passed the eagle eye of a Tiffany, and was bought by dozens of American specialists at thirty dollars per specimen.

"Who can pass the impossible or scrutate the inscrutable?" Mr. Tiffany now asks. But this excuse—if excuse it be—is lame in the extreme. There is nothing very inscrutable about an oxidised stamp.

MESSRS. MEKEEL of course have done the proper thing in this vexatious matter. They have agreed to return the money paid them by the purchasers of these pitiful "errors." No one will question for a moment that they acted throughout in the most honorable and straightforward way; but the thinking philatelist will never quite forgive them for the high-handed way in which they ignored the very plain comments of the American Philatelic Press. Mr. Henry Gremmel, of New York, stated in his *Post Office* from the outset that the "errors" were bogus. The *Weekly Philatelic Era*—Mr. W. W. Jewett's lively and enterprising sheet—followed suit, and there was a great array of expert opinion against the *bona fides* of the stamp. The result, as we have said, is a heavy blow to Mr. Tiffany, but it should mean considerable *kudos* to Mr. Henry Gremmel and to his able editor, Mr. Crawford Capen.

MR. W. SELLSCHOPP, of San Francisco, is leaving that city on July 1st for a trip to his native Germany, whither he will carry a big stock of the stamps of Hawaii, Japan, Samoa and U.S.A.—his specialities. Mr. Sellschopp is the editor and publisher of *Philatelic Facts and Fallacies*, one of the very smartest little papers published in the States. By push and promptitude he has built up a very comfortable little stamp business in the "city of gold."

To Postal Subscribers.

PLEASE find on this space a 2 cent. U.S. (Columbus) stamp, presented gratis to postal subscribers only.

Will you assist us? You can easily do so.

Scientific Philately Made Easy.

I.—PERFORATIONS.—By DR. BRYANT.

(Continued from page 154.)

In a very large number of cases we find that the perforation of labels has been most confused and irregular, *i.e.*, the gauge has been found to show varying measurements both horizontally and vertically. And we also find the same stamp partly rouletted and partly machine perforated. Many of the early South Australians exist in this manner.

In October, 1866, no less an authority than Dr. Legrand (*doyen* of French philatelists now living) began to publish a series of papers dealing with the perforation of postage stamps, their varieties, and a mode by which the different measurements could be ascertained. Previously, collectors simply classified their perforated stamps as either large or small dents, and by counting the horizontal and vertical number of points, so that $13\frac{1}{4}$ horizontal by 14 vertical would now be reckoned as 14 all round. This series of articles "Les dentelés et (?) non-dentelés" appeared in, we believe, *Les Timbrophiles*, now defunct, and perhaps forms one of the most important epochs and landmarks in the annals of philatelic science. Dr. Magnus had already introduced the practical study and classification of watermarks, which was eagerly taken up by all the then prominent collectors. It is almost needless for us to say that the same signal success followed Dr. Legrand's important papers, and, among others, Moens, Pemberton, Philbrick, Moschkau, Levraut, and many less noted students of stamps quickly adopted the new principles laid down by the eminent Frenchman, who proposed the use of a card which he had invented, by which the number of perforations within the space of 20 millimetres, of any other stamps than those fixed upon as the foundation of his scale, could be easily and with fair accuracy ascertained. This scale was constructed by beginning:—

- | | |
|-----|------------------------------------|
| 7 | "La Susse," France. |
| 9 | 2d. Prince Edward Island. |
| 9½ | 4th series (18), Austria. |
| 10 | Württemberg, 18. |
| 11 | 9d., Prince Edward Island. |
| 11½ | 1d., St. Vincent. |
| 12 | All United States from 1861. |
| 12½ | Russia, 18. |
| 13 | Belgium, "Gourvelcos." |
| 13½ | France, officially, 1862. |
| 14 | Great Britain, 1855, 1d., 2d., &c. |
| 14½ | Ceylon, 5d. |
| 15 | Russia, 1858. |
| 15½ | Natal, 1d. star. |
| 16 | Great Britain, 1854, 1d. and 2d. |

The above was projected on paper, black on white, and reproduced in the article, as also in various English and continental magazines. Dr. Magnus proposed to call it the "Odontometre," *i.e.*, teeth-measurer, which name it retains abroad up to the present time. But an English equivalent, *viz.*, "Perforation-gauge," has long since been found and bids fair to supersede the older name altogether. It is more comprehensive and sounds well—at least to English ears. Whether we can do away with the various original names for the different varieties of perforation is a matter for the future.

As to the gauges themselves, which are in present use, we find numerous types. Some are on card, others on gelatine, while many price lists give representations which can be used for approximate measurements. That invented by Wm. Brown, the "Ideal," and sold by the publishers of the *S.C.F.* has certain advantages not to be found in gauges sold by other publishers. With gelatine, we find it liable to affection by warmth of the pocket or room in which it is kept, so that measurements made by it are liable to be in fault or inaccurate. Of course, being transparent, is certainly some advantage. Were we able to carry out certain ideas we have on the subject of perforation gauges, we would suggest that they be

composed of slate or ivory; and that they be fixed in a kind of rim or frame, so that a stamp could be inserted for measurement. We should also add that one side of the rim be made moveable, so that the gauge could be applied to stamps already mounted in albums. Such might be expensive, but it would last, and moreover it could not in any way deteriorate if kept in a suitable pocket case.

We now conclude, in the hope that what has been penned will be of some value and interest to our readers. Space is valuable, or we might have enlarged upon the subject, but at all events, the most salient points have not been lost sight of. We are conscious of errors, which it has not always been in our power to avoid.

GEORGE ISAAC BRYANT.

English Stamps Used Abroad.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 155.)

- | | | |
|------|-------------|--|
| F85 | Porto Rico. | ¾d. rose-red, plate 4. |
| | | 1d. " plates 156, 185. |
| | | 1½d. " plates 1, 3. |
| | | 2d. blue, plate 14. |
| | | 3d. carmine, plates 7, 11, 16. |
| | | 4d. orange, plates 13, 14. |
| | | 4d. vermilion, plate 15. |
| | | 6d. dark buff, plate 11. |
| | | 6d. grey-green, plate 15. |
| | | 10d. pale brown. |
| | | 1sh. green, plates 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 (spray). |
| | | 2sh. blue. |
| | | 5sh. rose, plate 2. |
| F87 | Smyrna. | ¾d. green (1880). |
| | | 1d. lilac. |
| | | 1d. rose-red, plates 158, 160. |
| | | 1½d. " plate 1. |
| | | 2d. rose (1880). |
| | | 2d. blue, plates 14, 15. |
| | | 2½d. rose lilac, plates 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17. |
| | | 2½d. blue, plates 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23. |
| | | 2½d. lilac (1880). |
| | | 4d. orange, plates 12, 13, 14. |
| | | 4d. vermilion, plate 15. |
| | | 4d. sage-green, plates 15, 16. |
| | | 4d. green (1880). |
| | | 5d. violet-black (1880). |
| | | 6d. grey-green, plate 17 (Crown). |
| | | 6d. lilac and carmine (surcharge "6"). |
| | | 9d. bistre, plate 4 (spray). |
| | | 10d. pale-brown. |
| | | 1sh. green, plate 13. |
| | | 1sh. salmon, plate 13 (spray). |
| | | 1sh. green (1880 and 1887). |
| F 88 | Porto Rico. | 1d. rose-red, plate 187. |
| | | 3d. carmine, plate 19. |
| | | 4d. orange, plates 13, 14. |
| | | 4d. vermilion, plate 15. |
| | | 6d. dark buff, plate 12 (?) |
| | | [I have not personally seen this stamp and strongly suspect it to be light buff, anyone possessing the same would much oblige by sending it for inspection.—H. H.] |
| | | 6d. grey-green, plate 12, 15. |
| | | 10d. pale brown. |
| | | 1sh. green, plate 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12. |
| F 69 | Savanilla. | 4d. mouse-brown, plate 1 (garter). |
| | | 2sh. blue. |

(To be continued.)

[The Second Exchange Packet owing to my absence will not leave till first of July. Any one wishing to include sheets will please send same on without delay. I have already obtained two members in Switzerland and one in Constantinople, and there is no doubt that a great amount of pleasure can be obtained by the study of same.—H.H.]

By showing this paper to your philatelic friends.

Philately At Home.

EARLY SAFEGUARDS AGAINST FORGERY.

FROM an essay on this subject by "H. E. W.," in the "Ladies' Page," of the *Hackney Phonographer*, we extract the following:—"When the idea of creating adhesive stamps was first broached, the great question to be solved was, how to prevent forgery? It was necessary to supply an unfailling supply of specimens, all of which were to be exact in every respect. There was no particular difficulty in obtaining or printing a few thousand impressions, but to cope with the daily supply of say one million, was a work of great skill and ingenuity. After a number of experiments had been made, a design was engraved on a steel plate and reproduced on a number of similar plates, exactly the same, even to the minutest details, so that an unlimited amount of perfect specimens could be made. The paper on which stamps were first printed, was hand-made and of a greyish white colour. Watermarks, which were supplied to the manufacturer to be impressed into the paper the stamps were to be printed on, were great obstacles in the path of the forger. They were produced by affixing patterns made of thin brass or wire of the design required and put on to the wire gauze frame, which receives the pulp in the process of manufacturing the paper. They were so arranged that one of these impressions was produced in every space destined to be occupied by a stamp. Notwithstanding the safeguard of the watermarks, forgeries were frequent. One case occurred in and was found out through a young man writing to his sweetheart, under one of the forged stamps, and enclosing another for her reply. The offender was convicted and punished. Experience however, showed that there was another danger to be guarded against, besides forgery, namely, the fraudulent use of stamps a second time, which was sometimes impossible, through omission of official obliteration, or by the removal of the obliteration. The cancellation marks were originally ordered to be made in red ink, which was most probably chosen by the Post Office Officials, from the habit they had of stamping in red everything that was paid. Various experiments were tried, and at last it was decided to obliterate the stamps with black ink, and the stamps were to be printed in colours.

HOW SHALL WE DEAL WITH SEEBECKS?

No greater difficulty confronts the ardent anti-gumpaper than the Seebeck stamps. Seebecks are not "unnecessary stamps;" by no stretch of imagination can they be so called, for they supply a real postal need. Perhaps the only way out of the difficulty is to follow the very sensible suggestion of Mr. H. A. Slade, who in the course of an admirable list of "Unnecessary Stamps" in the *Bazaar*, recommends that the Seebeck issues be collected only upon the entire envelope. It is not enough to insist upon used specimens, for the complaisant Mr. Seebeck will cancel them by the sheet for a trifling consideration. No; they must be upon the entire envelope. In that condition, as Mr. Slade points out, they are not only collectible—they are a very decent investment.

This subject is further dealt with in a leading article on the fourth page of this issue.

STAMPS THAT TEETOTALERS WILL SHUN.

MR. WYNDHAM EAREE (who confesses that he is not personally teetotal), talks humorously to the readers of the last *Bazaar Philatelists' Supplement* about the latest issues of Queensland Stamps.—"The paper chosen (no doubt to the horror of Sir Wilfred Lawson and Co., must it be said) is the Queensland "Beer Duty" paper. What teetotaler, who is worthy of the name, will now dare to lick his stamp, or, may be, even permit the postman to deliver one at his house? And oh, horrors! Suppose the two-penny stamp also is to be subjected to the same degradation, what, then, of the sacred "blue," the colour that forswears intoxicants? Ichabod, Ichabod, thy glory will have departed! I have undertaken to enlighten the world, and to warn it; I will not now draw

back. The last drop must be added to this bitter cup, and it is this: 720,000 of the stamps have already been issued."

PHILATELY AND PRINTERS' INK.

Of the making of new philatelic papers there is no end. A writer in *Die Postwertzeichen Kunde* gives the following numbers of stamp journals which have appeared in different languages. In English 7850; German 4286; French 1957; Spanish 430; Italian 251; Dutch 203; Danish and Norwegian 126; Portuguese 112; Swedish 89; Roumanian 27; Greek 5.

Papers come and papers go; but we don't mind telling you that the "S.C.F." is going on for ever.

THE COMING BOOM IN EUROPEANS.

In the current number of his "Stamp Album" Mr. Harold Frederic again urges his readers to pay special attention to the older European issues, especially of the States which are now postally extinct. It is pointed out that the earlier stamps of countries like Prussia, Saxony, the Thurn and Taxis and North German Confederation, Modena, Tuscany, Austrian Italy, and numerous others have risen wonderfully during the past few years. The most remarkable example is that of Heligoland. Three years ago the entire set of these stamps, priced in Sent's catalogue footed up at £3 unused and £4 used. Now they are held respectively at £22 and £08. Any day, in Mr. Frederic's opinion, a similar thing might happen in old Iceland's, Baden's, or lithographed Hungary's just as easily.

City of London Philatelic Club.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, *The Stamp Collectors' Journal*, and *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*.

From Germany: *Die Post* and *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt*.

From Austria: *Welt Post*.

From Spain: *El Heraldo Timbrologico*.

From the United States: *The American Journal of Philately*, *The Philatelic Journal of America*, *The Collector* and *The Stamp*.

From Mexico: *El Monitor Filatelico*.

From India: *The Indian Philatelist*.

Auction Reports from Messrs. Ventom Bull & Cooper, and The London Philatelic Co.

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings at Cossavella's Restaurant, 121, Cheapside, E.C.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

DURING the summer months meetings will only be held once a month as follows:—July 18th, August 15th, and Sept. 12th. Many new members have recently joined, and there is little doubt that the Committee will be able to recommend the acquisition of a proper club room open at all times of the day.—Full particulars will be sent to members as soon as the Committee have decided what steps are to be taken.

THE EXCHANGE SUPERINTENDENT

would remind those members who participate in the packet that sheets for the forthcoming parcel are due immediately. Any who have not sent in their sheets by the date of this issue of the S.C.F. should do so forthwith. There are still a few small accounts outstanding, and it is requested that these be at once remitted to the Exchange Superintendent, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP,

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

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The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JUNE 29, 1895.

. . . Between Ourselves . . .

In our No. 17, we stated that a circular letter was sent by the Secretary of the P.P.A. to nearly every philatelic paper in the world, but that the FORTNIGHTLY was left severely alone. The *Delutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, the premier philatelic paper in Germany, comments on this circular as follows, dealing specially with the statement that they (the P.P.A.) had communicated a certain fraud to the German officials at Berlin:—"The Association is very conceited about this 'work'; it would have been of far greater value if they had told us where these stamps came from, and to whom they were consigned; it would have been very much better if they had pointed out to some of their members—for instance, to Mr. William Brown—that it is not etiquette to advertise forgeries in one's own paper, and that it is an assistance to an evident fraud to accept an advertisement which offers forgeries not specially mentioned as such. We refer to the Oneglia forgeries which the honourable gentleman named advertises without any comment whatever at pretty respectable figures. The advertisement in question can be found in the April number of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, where seven Sicilian stamps of the 1859 issue are offered for 3s."

Thus says our esteemed German contemporary, which has evinced the greatest sympathy with our campaign from the very outset. If we mention that its contributors include such men as Herr Lindenburg, Dr. Kalchoff, Dr. Frankel, Dr. Brendicke, etc., we say enough to prove that it is a journal superior to petty bickerings. So is the FORTNIGHTLY, but because the FORTNIGHTLY is owned by a stamp-dealing firm its attacks on abuses and malpractices are put down to trade spite (*vide* leader on "Nyassa," *P.F.G.B.* for June). Personal feeling has nothing whatever to do with these "attacks," as our friend the enemy persists in styling them. Let it be once and for all distinctly understood that the FORTNIGHTLY is to put down fraud of every shape or form. Its editors have no axes to grind, no personal wrongs to avenge. If persons in high and mighty quarters are pilloried in our columns it is because they have earned that distinction. The law does not protect collectors against the continuous frauds at present in vogue; and the only protection we can think of is publicity. If it is possible, according to English law, to prove a theft of stamps and then pay about £100 for the privilege of doing it, it is hopeless to appeal to that law. Our only remedy, as stated before, is to expose everything which threatens the future of our hobby.

And this brings us again to the P.P.A. If the P.P.A. were a strong and healthy body, consisting of men who put their

heart into the work before them, many thousands of pounds would have been saved to philatelists during the last three years. But it is the old story of round pegs in square holes. To entrust to old fogies like the P.P.A. the welfare of Philately is as ridiculous as to put an old washerwoman on the Drury Lane boards, and ask her to fulfil the rôle of a Patti. H.H.

* * *

Though every thinking man associated with the promotion of the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps has recognised the importance of the Seebeck the Seebeck problem, and though we of the Difficulty. "S.C.F." have alluded to it again and again, it is left to the *American Journal of Philately* to place the difficulty before us in its gravest aspect. There may be young collectors who do not know what is meant by "Seebecks" or "Seebeckised stamps." They may be unaware that many Central and South American States are supplied with postal stationery absolutely free by the benevolent Mr. Seebeck, presiding genius of the Hamilton Bank Note Company, of New York, conditionally on their allowing him the monopoly of the sale to collectors. Nor is this the worst of it. Mr. Seebeck, in addition to supplying the philatelic market with millions of unused stamps which have never been nearer the States whose name they bear than New York City, will also postmark the "goods" to order, and, if the inducement be strong enough, will doubtless send off batches of stamped envelopes through the post. Thus it will be seen that the difficulty is a very far reaching one. How shall we know the genuine article?—for we have shown that the "seebeckising" system extends not only to used specimens, but to used specimen "upon entire envelope." Echo answers how.

The *P.J. of A.* in the meantime addresses a very pertinent challenge to Stanley Gibbons, Limited, to "show their hand" on the Seebeck question. No good purpose is ever served in a position of this kind by a policy of "bolstering up," so we have no hesitation in repeating that Messrs. Mekeel, in their excellent magazine, draw attention to the fact that Stanley Gibbons, Limited, in the issue of their journal for April 30th—the very issue in which their now famous circular appeared—advertise the Salvador sets of 1894, from 1 centavo to 1 peso, at £6 per hundred sets, and the 2, 5, and 10 pesos of the same issue at the same price. Now this strikes one at first as inconsistency, but doubtless it is only a business-like desire on the part of our friends in the Strand to "unload" their Seebecks before renouncing, once and for all, the rubbishy output of the Hamilton Bank Note Company. Although this may be sound business, it is weak generalship. To sit on the fence at this juncture is to damn the cause which the "S.S.S.S." has at heart. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, must live up to themselves. The eye of every dealer in the world is upon them, and £6 lots of the worst gumpaps ever gummed must not be offered for sale by the firm which has undertaken to lead the van of the suppression movement. P.C.B.

* * *

It occurred to us, when dealing with the stamps (?) of Fez-

Sefro that it would be well to communicate with the Postal Authorities of Fez-Sefro. Morocco on the subject. This we accordingly did, asking: (1) If the special service between Fez and Sefro is legitimised or authorised by the French Government of Morocco; and (2) if the stamps used for the above service have the same philatelic value for a collector as those of France. And to these two questions the Director of Posts and Telegraphs at Tangier replies:

"In answer to your letter of June 5th, I have the honour to inform you that the 'Direction des Postes Francais' has made no arrangement at all with the undertaking known as the mail 'Fez-Sefro,' which is absolutely independent.

"Concerning the stamps of Fez-Sefro, they possess only that value which is attributed to them by the promoter of the enterprise." This, we think, clinches the matter. If the stamps are not absolutely bogus, they are locals of the most uninteresting description, with not a shred of philatelic importance about them. P.C.B.

If you want to know how to "make a bit" and help us at the

A SECOND EDITION
OF THE
REPRINT CATALOGUE.

AN APPEAL TO
COLLECTORS AND DEALERS
ALL OVER THE WORLD.



WHEN I decided, in 1892, to translate and enlarge Dr. Kalkhoff's valuable pamphlet on "Reprints," I had no idea that the venture would meet with any very great success, knowing full well that philatelists are not given to spending more than they can help upon books of reference. My intention was to print 500 copies only, but several prominent collectors, whom I consulted in the course of the work, laughed at the idea of such a small edition. So, in the end, I printed 2,000 copies, and of these I have scarcely 300 left. Incomplete as the book now is, it is still selling, a fact which undoubtedly proves that there is a demand for such a work. Now, for the past two years I have

given every moment I could spare to the work of accumulating information for a second edition of the "Catalogue of Reprints." But to render the book indispensable,

THE CO-OPERATION OF PHILATELISTS

in the various countries is eminently desirable. I would, therefore, esteem it a great favour if all those who take an interest in Reprints will send me such notes as they may have made, accompanied, if possible, by specimens. Every item of information is of value, and I sincerely trust that notes will not be withheld for the reason of their smallness in the eyes of the sender.

This new edition of my "Reprint" book will contain everything known about Reprints up to date, giving, not only a description of the stamps, but, if possible, who printed them, and under what conditions and circumstances they were issued. And in the case of many Government Reprints this information will be accompanied by an official decree.

It is intended to publish the book about Christmas. Therefore all notes should reach me as soon as possible. Collectors, perhaps, are not likely to have much important material on hand, but the dealers in the various philatelic centres should be able to assist very materially in the compilation of the work.

HARRY HILCKES.

64, Cheapside,
London, E.C.

Philately in India.

A CHAT WITH MR. C. F. LARMOUR, OF CALCUTTA.

AT one of the charming bijou residences in Bycullah Park, Enfield, I found Mr. C. F. Larmour, of Calcutta, and his collection. It was a strong order for a bijou residence, for both Mr. Larmour and his collection are big.



C. F. Larmour

"Oh yes, we're going ahead in India," said Mr. Larmour, enveloping himself in a cloud of cigarette smoke. "About six years ago, we began to awake to the fact that philately is the pleasantest pursuit possible for idle moments; and since then the hobby has been steadily booming in India."

"Chiefly among the Britishers I suppose?"

"Yes, but not entirely so. Many native gentlemen are most enthusiastic about it. Now, the Society I belong to, the Philatelic Society of Bengal—of which Mr. Stewart Wilson, is President—already numbers between 60 and 70 members,

which is not half bad for a young Society. And another important thing is, that all the members are genuinely enthusiastic, and many of them have accumulated fine lots of stamps. You've heard of Mr. Simpson, of Calcutta? Well, he has, I think, one of the very finest collections in India. Mr. Norman, who, by the way, is in London just now, also boasts a splendid collection."

"And as for yourself, Mr. Larmour?" I put in, remembering at that moment that I had heard very little so far, about the man I had come to interview.

"Well," said he, "I go in specially for Great Britain, British Colonies, and India. My Indians are rather a good lot, but they will not compare with those of Mr. Hynes. For instance, I have no sheet of half anna reds—I wish I had. But I have pairs and single specimens. I am also incomplete in the four annas, but otherwise I have a complete set of entire sheets of the early issues, and I am almost complete in the 'Service' Issues. I am also very strong in Portuguese India. The stamps of this little Colony having always had a special interest for me."

"SEEBECKISM," IN THE NATIVE STATES.

"Are you in sympathy with this movement against speculative stamps, Mr. Larmour?" I next asked.

"Rather!" said he, with emphasis. "So much do I object to these wretched "gumpaps" as you call them, that I haven't one of them in my collection. I think I am in a position to bet that I haven't placed in my album, a single stamp which could be called speculative."

"Good. And what is the feeling in India towards gumpaps?"

"Well, I think I can safely say that the Society just formed for the suppression of this rubbish, can count upon the warmest support from stamp collectors out there. I need hardly tell you that in India, we have special reason to feel the seriousness of the speculative stamp question. The stamps of the Native States are mostly made for the philatelic market. In many cases there is out and out Seebeckism, postmarking to order in the entire sheet, and all that sort of thing. But that is going to be changed soon, thank goodness. The Government will soon be taking over the postal administration of all the native states, and that, of course, will put a stop to the seebecking of the stamps."

"Mind you," Mr. Larmour went on to add, "I am not saying one word against the Indian Governmental Stamps surcharged for use in the Native States. They are right

enough. The surcharging is done by Indian Government officials and not in the States concerned. There is absolutely nothing crooked about these stamps. I make rather a point of this, because I have noticed that one of the papers, recently took exception to the surcharged stamps and plainly hinted that many of the errors of printing, such as misplaced letters, etc., were made with a view to a profitable "deal" with philatelists. That is absolutely false, and the stamps are as much above reproach as any that are issued under the auspices of the British Government."

A SERIOUS DANGER TO PHILATELY,

so far as India is concerned, is the duty charged upon stamps imported into the country, a matter which has been alluded to in the "S. C. F.," under the heading of "McKinleyism in India."

"I think," said Mr. Larmour, speaking of this iniquitous system, "that it is likely to check very seriously the growth of our hobby in India. Look at the glaring injustice of the thing: coins, which distinctly possess an intrinsic value apart from their worth as curiosities, are allowed to pass in free, while stamps, which have no intrinsic value, and for the matter of that, no exactly determinable market value, are taxed on an *ad valorem* scale. When you contrast stamps with silver coins (silver being a dutiable commodity) the injustice becomes all the more glaring. And the thing is so far-reaching. If a collector sends or takes his collection out of the country, duty must be paid on it when it comes back. Thus you see the officials interpret the law most stringently. To tell you the truth, I have left my Indian stamps in Calcutta, bringing only a small portion of my British and Colonials over here, simply because I don't want to have to spend a small fortune in duty."

"But is there no remedy for this state of affairs, Mr. Larmour. Can nothing be done?"

"I fear not. We of the Bengal Philatelic Society appealed to the Government about the injustice of the tax; but I heard just before leaving India, that the matter had been decided against us. No, I am afraid we can only grin and bear it, or, at any rate, pay and bear it."

MR. LAMOUR, PERSONALLY,

is a man to meet—full of geniality and good spirits. In Indian philately he is a *persona grata*, not only as a collector, but also as editor of the premier Indian philatelic paper, the *Philatelic World*, the publication of which has made Mr. Gordon Jones, of Calcutta, quite the Stanley Gibbons of our Eastern Empire. Mr. Larmour, is a member of the London Philatelic Society and proud of it. The London Philatelic Society may also be proud of it. P.C.B.

The Anti-Gumpap Crusade.

A MEETING of the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps was held on the 31st May, at 391, Strand, London. Present: Messrs. C. J. Philips (in the chair), J. Scott Stokes, H. Stafford Smith, W. Hadlow, Harry Hilckes, Frederick R. Ginn, W. H. Peckitt, M. Giwelb, and Gordon Smith (Sec.) The Minutes of the Preliminary Meeting were read and confirmed. The draft Statutes of the Society were finally approved. The following were elected (subject to their acceptance) Officers of the Society: *Vice-presidents*: E. Stanley Gibbons, J. B. Moens. *Chairman of Committees*: C. J. Philips. *Secretary*: Gordon Smith. *Treasurer*: Frederick R. Ginn. *Committee*: W. Brown, G. C. Butler (of Butler Bros.), Edwin Clark, E. B. Evans, R. B. Earle, Harold Frederic, M. Giwelb, Harry Hilckes, W. Hadlow, Whitfield King, W. H. Peckitt, Alfred Smith, H. Stafford Smith, J. Scott Stokes, W. T. Wilson, and W. A. S. Westoby.

The following were elected as a *Sub-committee* (to be called "The Executive Committee"): Harry Hilckes, M. Giwelb, W. H. Peckitt, J. S. Stokes, W. Hadlow, F. R. Ginn, and Gordon Smith. Three to form a quorum.
391, STRAND, LONDON, W.C. GORDON SMITH, *Secretary*.

"Forgers and their Work."

WE regret that pressure on our space compels us to hold over this popular feature.

The Secret Marks of The Stamps of Switzerland—1843-1854.

[This article was first published in 1891 by A. Larich, of Munich; the author, Freiherr C. v. Girsewald has kindly revised the German work for the special benefit of the readers of the "S. C. F."]

TRANSLATED BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 159.)

None of the counterfeits give the lines correctly. One kind of forgery is very easily recognized by its incorrect dark green colour. Another one is far more dangerous; it is a very excellent imitation, only line No. 8 does not touch the frame line as it should, and the wings of the eagle do not reach to the coat of arms.

The right, as well as the left half, were used separately as postage, and have a place in collections just as well as the Mecklenburg Schwerin 4 x 4 stamp, which is made up of four stamps. But the "double-Genevas," made of two right or two left Geneva stamps, should simply be classified among oddities.



The cancellation mark is in most cases a rosette stamp in red colour, very similar to the Zurich mark, but smaller; although various other cancellation marks occur, we illustrate here the rosette one only. In counterfeits the larger Zurich marks have frequently been used; but lately this error has been avoided, and counterfeit Geneva stamps have been produced which are dangerously near to the originals.

II. 5c. YELLOWISH GREEN. SMALL EAGLE.

After the half "double Genevas" had been used for two years for city postage, a special 5c. stamp was created in the summer of 1845, but it could be used throughout the Canton, as shown by its inscription: "Port Cantonal."

The type of this stamp is very similar to the half "double Geneva," only it is a little larger, measuring 17.25 mm. in width and 19.8 in height. The inscription "Poste de Geneve" is in a slight curve; the middle word "de" does not stand exactly over the centre of the coat of arms, but a little to the left of it.

Compared with the stamps issued later the eagle is small; it does not touch the coat of arms with its wings; its tail feathers only reach as far as the frame around the arms; indeed, the innermost tail feather passes right through this frame line.

There is a period after the 5 on the left of the coat of arms, but this is omitted after the C on the right.

The right half of the coat of arms has nineteen lines; the third and fourth, beginning on the left, are not straight but very wavy; the greatest distance is to be found between the seventh and eighth line; the first, ninth, thirteenth and eighteenth lines intersect the frame line of the coat of arms, the first and the ninth lines being the longest.

The middle line, which cuts the coat of arms into two halves intersects the inner frame line above and almost touches the thicker line below.

A careful observation of these details will always be sufficient to detect a forgery from a genuine stamp.

III. 5c. YELLOWISH-GREEN. LARGE EAGLE.

The design of the Geneva stamp was altered in 1847, and a third stamp was issued, very similar in colour to the other two, but still showing a difference in shade.

We give below such details of the altered design as will serve to distinguish this third stamp from its predecessors.

1. In size it is exactly like the stamp of 1845, but the coat of arms is somewhat broader.
2. The scroll with the inscription: "Post Tenebras Lux" touches the inner frame line of the stamp on the right side.
3. The eagle is larger, has a much better head, and touches with its wings the frame line of the coat of arms.

4. The half of the coat of arms containing the key has seventeen perpendicular lines: counting from the left, the sixth and seventh pass through the frame line of the coat of arms.

5. In the word "Poste," the "e" is too deep; this is on account of the lower curve of the letter being out of proportion to the rest of the letter.

6. There is a circle of rays surrounding the letters IHS on top of the coat of arms. Three of these rays (those between the "e" and the "G") are very long. One extends even higher than the top of the "e."

7. All the inscriptions on this stamp are larger than those on the small eagle stamps.

8. There is no period letter after the 5 on the left of arms, nor after the C on the right of the same.

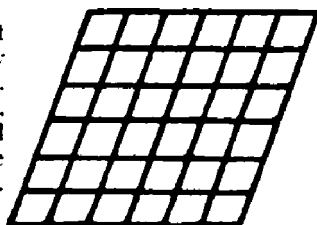
IV. 5c. DARK GREEN.

Only by its colour can this stamp, which was issued in 1848, be distinguished from its predecessor.

Forgeries of the three Genevese 5c. stamps, as a rule, were not very successful. They show marked differences in the design of the coat of arms, in the vertical lines and in the circle of rays, which is almost an oval. There is a remarkable imitation of the two stamps with the larger eagle. It is of a pink colour and is probably an essay:



The cancellation of these last stamps was usually done by means of the red rosette stamp. But we find also other marks, such as a black diamond formed of vertical lines and a square made up of many smaller ones. These two we have illustrated.



(To be continued.)

Philately Abroad.

U.S.A. STAMPS TO BE WATERMARKED.

IT may or may not be a result of the recent counterfeiting of 2c. U.S.A. stamps; but in any case it is a fact that in future the postage stamps of the United States will be printed on watermarked paper. This will act as a check upon any future forgery operations, as the manufacture of paper similarly watermarked will be prohibited by law. Hitherto any American could manufacture paper identical with that upon which the U.S. stamps were printed without let or hindrance, although the imitation of paper used for greenbacks has always been prohibited. Already we learn from *Mekel's Weekly*, since writing the above, the watermark has been applied to the 1c. and 2c. stamps.

SAN MARINO STILL ON THE JOB.

FOLLOWING is the text of a postcard received by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., from an official source in San Marino:—

As you have frequently bought stamps from San Marino I have pleasure in informing you that, subject to the whole stock being sold, small parcels of Jubilee stamps can still be obtained with a heavy discount, but no orders under £4 will be subject to any reduction and will be executed at face value only.

We earnestly hope that San Marino will not only be unable to find a purchaser for the remainder of the Jubilee issue, but that they will even find it difficult to sell a single lot at face value.

PLATE-NUMBER COLLECTING IN THE STATES.

IT does our heart good, and should also please our worthy contributor, Mr. John K. Clifford, to learn that our American friends from reviling us for our folly in collecting English plate numbers have got to collecting American plate numbers

themselves. Mr. L. G. Dorpat has said it in *Mekel's Weekly*. The matter is the more surprising from the fact that American plate numbers appear, not on each stamp, but only on the marginal strip. They are really only the equivalent of our English "account letters."

THE ST. ANTOINE CUMPAPS A FAILURE.

WE have it on good authority that although (or perhaps because) there is a somewhat ugly Saint to be seen on these "Cumpaps," they are selling very badly, so badly indeed, that the Authorities are contemplating prolonging the period of their existence, originally intended to extend from the 13th to the 30th of June. This is good news indeed!

COMPANIA da MOZAMBIQUE.—ELEPHANT SERIES.

It is rumoured that a clerk in the Cia da Mozambique at Lisbon, has had 3,000 stamps (which value does not transpire) printed with the legend "Provisora 25 reis" on his own account and is keeping everyone for his own use! We are promised further news of a more definite character later on.

STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ABROAD.

FROM Messrs. Tchakidji & Co., of Constantinople, we have received a very well arranged pocket catalogue of Turkish and Levantine stamps.

The U.S.A. Columbus remainders placed on sale at Washington are fast disappearing. The only denominations remaining are the 1c., 6c., \$3, \$4, and \$5.

Rambling on the Continent.

By HARRY HILCKES.

THE German is nothing if not thoroughly social; hence why the various philatelic Congresses meet with such phenomenal success every time they are held. Philatelists in the North West of Germany felt the necessity of a yearly meeting quite *entre nous*, and thus the Wander-meetings were inaugurated some three years ago. The first was but small, but the second one in Hamburg last year showed a very fair number of visitors, while this year's meeting in Bremen nearly doubled that number. It must however be distinctly understood that these meetings are quite distinct from the annual Congress, the proceedings of which I have reported for the *London Philatelist* for the last three years. The latter arrangement embodies a great deal of work, useful and otherwise I admit; still, I am firmly convinced that these congresses have done more to change things in general than all the newspapers together could possibly effect. Those, especially in England, who never attended any of these congresses or meetings are in the habit of accusing the delegates of over-indulgence in beer and under-indulgence in philately; but by that dictum they proclaim only their ignorance, and as it is proverbially useless to try to teach a horse to fly, it is quite as useless to convince these stubborn writers of the error of their opinion. Come and see for yourself dear reader; the next Congress takes place at Mannheim (near Heidelberg) on 13th to 15th July. If anyone could manage a fortnight during those days, the Rhine scenery alone would compensate him for his trouble without the fact that that he is likely to meet about 150 philatelists from all parts of Germany, and not only philatelists does he meet with, but also any number of bargains, but of course that is a minor consideration!

But I am wandering away from my subject. When looking through the duplicates of the visitors at Bremen it struck me that there were hardly any English Colonials offering. The few I found were priced so high that I could not touch them. It is remarkable how quickly news travels among philatelists in general, and among the German philatelists in particular. Hardly is a stamp sold in London auctions at, say, £2 more than any price previously attained, than up goes the price in the Fatherland correspondingly; but—and this is the most curious part—it is not the dealer that first notices the rise, but the collector who happens to have a specimen in his possession. A most amusing speech was made at the supper in Bremen by a collector who began a philippic against the growing greediness of dealers in asking high prices for rare stamps. Very properly another collector replied at once

You may have noticed that when a man comes into our advertising columns he stops in.

that, *not* the dealer, but the collector himself, was the guilty party. Was it likely, asked this speaker, that a dealer should ask a price he knew before hand he could not realise? Many instances were known where wealthy collectors "cornered" one particular stamp by buying *every* fine copy he could obtain; up the prices went each time and, once a handsome profit was secured, a slow unloading began without in any way spoiling the prices, because one collector began and a good many imitators followed. But why should this state of things be condemned? Only those who had not the 'cuteness to do likewise, grumbled. It was the story of the fox and the sour grapes over again. The chief danger was the forgery and the unnecessary stamp and so on.

From Berlin I went to Hamburg, but owing to the festivities there on the occasion of the visit of the German Emperor, very little business could be done. The "Hamburger" simply refused to be bothered with such sordid matters as business transactions, but I unearthed one party who actually refused to recognise the difference of water-marks. Well, I didn't, and I am not sorry.

(To be continued).



Our Forum.

**** Correspondents should write on one side of the paper only and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.**

SAINT GUMPAP.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour (!) to announce, unless you are already aware of the fact, another "Gumpap" issue "to commemorate the 7th centenary of St. Antoine."

Now, much as I respect St. Antoine at a distance, I do not like to see his heavenly virtues mixed up with such earthly dross as commercial speculation. I, therefore, trust that the Saint or rather his portrait, may have an *easy* time during the period from 13th to 30th June, in fact. I hope all collectors will make it a period of abstinence as far as Portugal is concerned, for it is better to fast in such cases, and tone the battered mental system up for healthier stuff.

On behalf of a friend, I sent to the postmaster of Lisbon, last January or February, for a set of the commemorative stamps, issued for a short period during the latter month. The reply, however, was not favourable.

The postmaster stated that I could obtain any stamps I wanted from any of the dealers in Lisbon, returning my P.O., but not prepaying postage!

Now that worthy official, noting the possibility of a slightly increased revenue, apparently gave my name and address to a Lisbon dealer who is at my service!

I enclose his letter which kindly return at your convenience. Shall I speculate? Not exactly.

I do not see the joke of paying 12s. for a few perforated or unperforated "pictures." When the next great dictionary is published, I shall earnestly look for the meaning of the word "postage" as applied to stamps.

Yours faithfully,

H. E. W.

Shepherd's Bush, 22nd May, 1895.

A JOURNAL FOR ENGLISH SPECIALISTS.

DEAR SIRS,—Referring to our conversation of Monday last, it is clearly your duty to publish a paper devoted *exclusively* to the subject of English Stamps, the circle of collectors being now so large. The magazine should be a shilling monthly, about the size of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY. Will you not print your list of postmarks before the second edition of the catalogue as a 6d. supplement to the "S.C.F."—or in the new paper? The sale would amply repay the

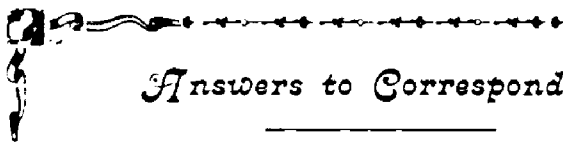
printing outlay, and we should then have the list in such a size that we could put it bodily into our albums as a sort of index.

Yours very truly,

E. H. A.

London, 12th June, 1895.

[We admit it would be very acceptable to many readers to have a 6d. or 1/- Magazine for English Stamps only, but we are sorely afraid, from what we know of philatelists collectively, that the venture would prove a sad failure from a financial point of view. The new edition of "The English Catalogue" will, however, contain all the information our correspondent desires.—H. HILCKES.]



Answers to Correspondents.

**** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.**

St. S. B. (Wimbledon).—The difference between the printings at Paris and Athens in the early Grecian Stamps is somewhat difficult to explain by letterpress, since it originated in different procedures in the printing and *not* as many seem to think in different plates being used. The more experienced workman in Paris, who moreover had *new* plates to deal with, obtained far better results than his Grecian colleague, who no doubt had to put up with less perfect machinery. It seems also likely that the plates when sent from Paris must have shown some signs of wear and tear which would necessitate a higher pressure when printing. We have also heard that the Athens issue was printed from a lithographic transfer stone, which seems not at all unlikely, and would at once explain the coarser lines. Whatever the reason may be, the fact remains that the Paris printings show much finer shading lines on the neck of the bust, these being thoroughly in keeping with the entire design, from an artistic point of view. The Athens printings show these lines much coarser, and from the draftsman's point of view are altogether out of place. We will endeavour to photograph two representative stamps and illustrate the same in our next number, if they should turn out well.

G. B. (Como).—(a) We do not know of the Azores you mention, but are you sure the surcharge is genuine? Perhaps you could send it for inspection. (b) No, certainly not! There is quite enough hair-splitting done in philately and we have no need of such varieties as you mention (slightly misplaced centre of U.S.A., 1860, 15c.) (c) Without seeing the stamp you mention it is impossible to say whether it is imperf. or not. (d) We should also like to see the Wurtemberg; the impression seems to be on the wrong side.

E. E. (London) will find all the information he seeks in our publishers' "Catalogue of English Stamps," price 4s. 6d.

G. A. G.—Unfortunately there is no book published containing the information you seek.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.—Pages of Two Columns.			
For One Insertion—	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Page	5 0 0	Whole Page	4 0 0
Half Page	2 15 0	Half Page	2 5 0
Quarter Page	1 10 0	Quarter Page	1 5 0
One-Eighth Page	0 15 0	One-Eighth Page	0 12 6
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Quarter Column	0 10 0	Quarter Column	0 8 6
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Our Advertisement Rates are the highest in this country; but so is our circulation.

STATUTES

Statutes

OF THE

SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF
SPECULATIVE STAMPS.

OFFICERS.

President.

(To be elected shortly.)

Vice-Presidents.

E. STANLEY GIBBONS.

J. B. MOENS.

(One to be elected.)

Chairman of Committees.

C. J. PHILLIPS.

Treasurer.

* F. R. GINN.

Committee.

W. BROWN.
G. C. BUTLER (of Butler Bros.)
EDWIN CLARK.
E. B. EVANS.
R. B. EARÉE.
HAROLD FREDERIC.
* M. GIWELB.
* H. HILCKES.

* W. HADLOW.
WHITFIELD KING.
* W. H. PECKITT.
ALFRED SMITH.
H. STAFFORD SMITH.
* J. SCOTT STOKES.
W. T. WILSON.
W. A. S. WESTOBY.

(The full complement of 45 on the Committee will be gradually filled up.)

Secretary.

GORDON SMITH, 391, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

* These form the Executive Committee.

STATUTES

OF THE

Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps.

OBJECTS.

LAW 1. This Society is formed:—

(a) To discountenance and prevent the dealing in and collecting of postage stamps or other postal matter created wholly or partly for speculative purposes, or unnecessary for legitimate postal uses or requirements.

(b) To decide and declare what stamps or other postal matter shall be classed as speculative or unnecessary, as aforesaid.

(c) To secure the exclusion from all catalogues, albums, journals, price lists, or other philatelic publications, of all such stamps or other postal matter, as aforesaid.

(d) To take such measures as may lead to the prevention of the issue of all such stamps or other postal matter, as aforesaid.

(e) To publish and cause to be published from time to time all decisions, proceedings, or other information, in such manner as may secure the widest publicity amongst all persons or Societies interested in stamp collecting throughout the world.

(f) To take any measures that may be deemed expedient, desirable, or necessary for the further and better carrying out of the before-mentioned objects, or for any other purpose in the interest of the members of this Society.

MEMBERSHIP.

Law 2. All persons (not under 21 years of age) who are stamp collectors, stamp dealers, or importers, proprietors and publishers of stamp catalogues, albums, or journals, and philatelic journalists or writers, are eligible for membership.

Law 3. Candidates for membership shall be proposed and seconded by members of the Society, and balloted for at a meeting of the Committee next after that at which the proposal has been received. One black ball in 4 to exclude. Where a candidate is unable to obtain a proposer and seconder, two satisfactory references will be accepted in lieu thereof.

Law 4. Where any charge affecting the conduct or character of a member has been brought before the Committee, the same shall be inquired into, and the member given opportunity to explain the charge or charges made against him. If, in the opinion of the Committee, the conduct or character of the member so charged is inconsistent with or injurious to the interest of the Society or its members, the Committee may, by a majority of three-fourths of those present, expel such member from the Society, but the member so expelled may appeal to a General Meeting of the Society, at which a majority of three-fourths of those present shall be necessary to quash the expulsion.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE.

Law 5. The Officers of the Society shall consist of a President, three Vice-Presidents, Chairman of Committees, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Law 6. The affairs of the Society shall be conducted by a Committee, consisting of the Officers and 45 other members. Whenever the membership of the Society exceeds 200, the Committee may be increased by one for every 25 members in excess of 200. Seven shall form a quorum.

Law 7. The Officers and Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, which shall be held on the first Friday in May. Vacancies occurring during the current year shall be filled up by the Committee.

Law 8. The Committee shall appoint from among themselves Sub-Committees for the purpose of carrying out the objects of the Society. The Committee shall have power (i.) to make By-laws for the regulation of the Committee or of the Sub-Committees; (ii.) to appoint such Honorary Officers as may in the opinion of the Committee best serve the interests of the Society; and (iii.) generally manage the affairs of the Society, and pay all salaries and other monies that the Committee may think desirable for carrying out the objects of the Society.

Law 9. At the meeting of the Committee preceding the Annual General Meeting, two Auditors shall be appointed (one of whom shall not be a member of the Committee), who shall audit the accounts of the Treasurer, and present a report thereon at the Annual General Meeting.

Law 10. The Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, keep minutes, issue notices and circulars, attend all meetings, and carry out the directions of the Committee. In conjunction with the Treasurer, he shall collect the income of the Society and give receipts, and pay over to the Treasurer all amounts received.

Law 11. The Treasurer shall keep the funds of the Society, make all necessary payments, and keep accounts of receipts and expenditure.

SUBSCRIPTION.

Law 12. The annual subscription of members shall be Five Shillings, payable in advance on election, and thereafter on the first of May in each year. No member whose subscription is in arrear after the first of August (or in the case of a member residing abroad, the first of November) can vote at any meeting of the Society, and if in arrear on the first of November (or 12 months in the case of a member residing abroad) he shall be considered to have resigned his membership, provided that due application shall have been made to him at his last known address or place of abode.

GENERAL.

Law 13. A General Meeting may be called at any time by the Committee, or upon a requisition signed by not less than 25 members, and notice thereof shall be sent out 14 days before such Meeting, stating the business for which such Meeting has been called.

Law 14. No alteration of, amendment of, or addition to these Statutes shall be made except at a General Meeting, and only then after one month's notice or other publication of such proposed alteration, amendment, or addition.

The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

Name of Candidate in full

Titles, &c.

Residential and Business Address (if any)

Name and Address of Proposer or first Reference

Name and Address of Seconder or second Reference

Date

I, the undersigned, desire to become a Member of the above Society, and agree to adhere to the Statutes, and further in every way the objects of the Society.

Signature

NOTE.—This Application must be accompanied by a remittance of 5,- or its equivalent in the Currency of the Country where the Candidate resides.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
b	Mexico, ditto, ditto, ditto, wove, on original, 5 averaged	0	10	5
c	ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, quadrille, on original	..	0	15
b	ditto, ditto, 4r. blue on original ..	..	0	12
a	ditto, ditto, 1 peso. lilac, quadrille, on original ..	..	0	18
b & c	ditto, ditto (1868), 1r. green, 2 on entire ..	..	0	15
b	ditto, ditto, 2r. lilac, wove, on entire ..	8s. and	0	10
a	ditto, ditto, ditto, ditto, laid ditto ..	..	0	10
b	Naples, 50gr. lake ..	..	4	8
c	Natal, first issue, 1d. pink, pair on piece of original ..	1	6	0
a & b	ditto, 3d. rose, 3 copies ditto ..	..	1	10
c	ditto, 1/- buff, cut close ..	..	1	18
b	Nevis, first issue, 4d. rose ..	..	4	15
b	ditto, ditto, faded ..	..	2	4
b	ditto, 6d. grey ..	..	2	2
b	ditto, ditto, on bluish ..	..	3	0
b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow and half of 3d. red, on entire ..	..	4	10
b	Newfoundland, 6d. orange-red, cut close ..	..	1	8
c	6d. carmine-vermilion ..	..	5	5
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 3d. olive-green ..	..	1	10
c	Laureated, 8d. orange, margin one side only ..	..	1	5
a	Diadem, 3d. light green ..	..	1	5
a	6d. violet, wmk. 12 ..	£2 and	2	10
b	ditto, ditto, 80 used copies ..	..	6	16
a	New Zealand, 1d. blue paper ..	..	2	8
b	Another, cut close ..	..	1	12
a	4d. yellow, no wmk. ..	..	0	19
c	Nova Scotia, 1/- cold violet, slight tear ..	..	8	8
b	8½c. green ..	£1 1s. and	1	3
b	Oldenburg, first issue, ½ thaler rose ..	..	4	15
b	Second issue, ½ gr. green *, slightly thinned ..	..	8	0
b	ditto, 3gr. yellow ..	..	2	6
c	Third issue, ½ gr. yellow, cut into ..	..	3	0
b	ditto, ½ gr., green ..	..	1	10
a	Pacific Steam Navigation, 1r. blue ..	..	5	0
c	Peru, medio peso, yellow ..	..	2	0
b	1 dinero green, centre inverted ..	..	1	18
a	Portugal, first issue, 100 reis lilac ..	..	2	4
b	ditto, ditto, vertical pair ..	..	2	14
c	Portuguese Indies, first issue, 20r. red on thin yellowish (1882), 1½r. black, double print ..	..	0	11
c	Queensland, first issue, 6d. green, pair (cut into), on piece of original ..	..	4	17
a	1d. vermilion, Q and Crown, pair, imperf., (proofs?) ..	..	1	6
a	2d. blue, no wmk., pair, proof ..	..	1	0
a & c	(1880), 2d. blue, burélé, pair ..	..	0	16
a	(1880), ditto, perf. 9 × 13, 2 copies ..	..	0	13
c	St. Helena, 3d. violet, imperf. ..	..	1	0
b	6d. blue, perf. 12½ ..	..	0	16
a	ditto, perf. 12½ × 14 ..	..	0	12
b	Samoa, 2/- brown ..	..	0	5
b	Sandwich Islands (1853), 5c. blue, line before 5 ..	..	0	17
c	ditto, ditto, on thin paper ..	..	0	12
b	ditto, 5c. black on 13c. vermilion ..	..	5	5
b	(1859), 1c. light blue ..	..	1	10
b	ditto, 2c. light blue ..	..	1	10
c	Shanghai, first issue, 1 cand. on piece of original ..	..	0	14
a	South Australia, 2d. orange, V. and crown ..	..	0	16
a	3d. red on 4d. blue ..	..	1	4
b	4d. purple, perf. and roulette, Victoria postmark ..	..	1	5
a	9d. grey-lilac, perf. and roulette ..	..	1	14
b	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze ..	..	2	5
c	ditto, 3 cuartos bronze ..	..	13	0
b	(1850) 10r. green ..	..	4	10
b	(1851) 2r. red ..	..	30	0
b	ditto, 6r. blue ..	..	3	7
b	(1852) 2r. red, cut one side ..	..	9	15
b	ditto, 5r. green ..	..	2	2
b	(1853) 2r. red ..	..	11	15
a	(1854) 2 cuartos green ..	..	2	2
a	ditto, 1r. pale blue ..	..	15	0
b	(1865) 4 cuartos blue, imperf. ..	..	1	1
a	ditto, 12 cuartos blue and rose, head inverted ..	..	8	10
c	ditto, 19 cuartos brown and rose ..	..	1	1
b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r. ..	..	5	0
a	Another, used ..	..	4	7
a	Vaud 5c. ..	£1 2s. and	1	6
b	Winterthur, 2½r. ..	£6 and	7	0
b	Zurich, 6r., horizontal lines ..	..	4	10
c	ditto, another, on piece of original ..	..	1	6
a	ditto, another, vertical lines ..	..	1	4

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
c	Tasmania, 1d. blue, heavy postmark ..	..	1	12
c	4d. blue, fine serrations ..	..	0	11
c	Trinidad, blue, lithograph ..	..	1	4
b & c	Tuscany, 1 soldo, yellow, 3 averaged ..	..	1	0
b	80c. pale red ..	..	2	0
c	United States (1855), 90c. blue ..	..	2	2
c	(1861), 5c. mustard, perfs. cut ..	..	1	7
c	(1868), 90c. blue, grille ..	..	1	2
a	(1869), 90c. ..	..	1	16
b	Newspaper, 5c. blue, coloured border ..	..	0	18
c	Memphis, 5c. carmine ..	..	0	16
b	Mobile, 5c. blue ..	..	1	3
c	Nashville, 5c. rose on bluish ..	..	0	10
b	New Orleans, 2c. blue on white ..	..	0	15
b	Confederate States, 2c. rose, strip of 5 on entire ..	..	0	18
b	Victoria (1861) 2/- green, perf. ..	..	1	6
a	Emblems, 4d. rose, no wmk., imperf. ..	..	0	15
a	ditto, ditto, star, roulette, pair on original ..	..	0	13
a	Pearls, 3d. blue on laid, pair ..	..	0	15
a & c	ditto, 3d. claret, 2 copies ..	..	1	16
a	ditto, 6d. orange, unevenly centred ..	..	5	5
b	ditto, 6d. black, 2 copies ..	..	1	0
c	Laureated, 10d. slate, cleaned ..	..	1	2
b	8d. on 9d. brown ..	..	0	11
a	5/- blue on yellow ..	..	4	4
c	Western Australia, first issue, 2d. red-brown ..	..	2	17
c	ditto, 6d. bronze, 3 averaged ..	..	1	11
b	ditto, ditto, on original ..	..	2	0
b	ditto, 1/- red-brown ..	..	0	16
c	ditto, 4d. blue, roulette ..	..	1	0
c	ditto, 6d. bronze, roulette on original ..	..	4	8
b	ditto, 1/- brown, roulette ..	..	5	5
b	(1860), 2d. vermilion, roulette ..	..	0	12
b	ditto, 4d. blue, imperf. ..	..	1	14
b	Wurttemberg, first issue, 18kr. lilac ..	£1 6s. and	1	7
a	(1857) 6kr. green ..	..	2	2
c	ditto, 18kr. blue ..	..	1	10
a	(1859), 1kr. brown, no thread, pair ..	..	2	2
a	ditto, ditto, a single ..	..	0	18
b	ditto, 3kr. yellow ..	..	2	15
b	ditto, 9kr. rose ..	..	2	0

Mr. W. HADLOW, May 27, 1895.

c	Afghanistan (1293) 1 rupee black, cut square, piece out	2	15	0
b	ditto, tablet, sunar black, cut square, untern	..	4	10
b	Cape of Good Hope, 1d. red on blue, block of 4	..	0	9
a	Nevis, 6d. red-brown, CA. ..	..	0	11
c	Newfoundland, 6d. orange-vermilion ..	..	0	12
c	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue ..	..	0	18
a	1/- green, thick paper ..	..	0	11
b	Philippines, first issue, 5c. litho. ..	..	0	12
b	Queensland, 2d. blue, perf. 9½ × 12½, two copies ..	..	0	10
b	St. Lucia, blue, CC., imperf. ..	..	1	0
b	ditto, 1/- orange ..	..	1	0
c	South Australia, 1d. green, imperf. pair ..	..	1	10
b	United States (1869), 90c. ..	..	1	12
c	Mobile, 5c. blue, on entire ..	..	0	19
a	Virgin Islands, 4d. brown-rose ..	..	0	16

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, May 29, 1895.

a	Bahamas, 4d. diagonal surcharge on 6d. lilac	..	0	14
c	Buenos Ayres, 3 pesos green ..	..	4	0
a	Canada, 6d. grey-lilac ..	..	9	0
b	7½d. green ..	..	6	6
c	Another, used ..	..	0	18
b	rod. blue, *, but ink stain ..	..	3	0
b	Cape of Good Hope, 1d. woodblock, cut close ..	..	2	0
c	Another ..	..	1	11
b	4d. ditto ..	..	1	6
c	4d., ditto, the red error, cut into ..	..	32	0
a	Ceylon, 6d., on blue paper, *, pair ..	..	5	5
c	1/9 green, imperf. ..	..	2	10
c	Another, *, cut into ..	..	1	14
b	9d., star, perf. ..	..	0	15
a	1/9, ditto, ditto, ditto ..	..	2	15
c	5d. brown, CC. ..	..	0	15
c	Cyprus, 1/- green, bottom perfs. cut ..	..	1	0
a	France, Ballon Monté, 30c. ..	..	1	3
a	Lettre-Journal, 30c. ..	..	0	18
a	Gibraltar, first issue, 1/- brown ..	..	1	19

(To be continued).

Doings of Societies.

LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
SCARBOROUGH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.
ROCHDALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
NORTHAMPTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

No reports to hand on going to press.

PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THIS Society brought its series of exhibitions to a successful close on Wednesday, May 20th, when a fine display of the postage stamps of Great Britain was on view. With the exception of a few varieties which, although printed, have never been in actual circulation, the exhibition included representatives of every die and each plate from which the adhesive postage stamps of this country have been produced during the past 55 years. The following summary of the chief items in each collection will be of interest to every philatelist:—

Mr. A. R. Barrett (president). All unused, several specimens of the 1840 black, 1d., and blocks of various shades of the imperforate 1d. red. The 1d. perforated 14, small crown, die I.; two pairs and strip of three of the same stamp, die II.; perforated 16, die II. (3), one being on paper shewing no signs of the blue discolouration. The twopenny, perforated 14, small crown; ditto, large crown, pair and strip of three. The small halfpenny and twopenny plate numbers in blocks; 14d. rose-lilac with and without "specimen." The values from 24d. to 1s. nearly complete. The octagonal 6d., 1s. and 10d., pair. A complete unsevered sheet of the 1d. red, plate 177.

Mr. R. T. Stevens (vice-president). This display was mounted on the movable leaves of the exhibitors newly-patented "Desideratum" album, and comprised used specimens of the surface printed stamps, produced by Messrs. De la Rue, in an immense variety of shade, watermark, &c. Among the varieties were the 4d. large garter, on apparently bleute paper, and the same stamp both on very thick and on glazed paper, printed in the colour usually found in the medium garter; also a fine used copy of the scarce 2s. brown.

Mr. H. W. Mayne. Used Mulready Envelope bearing early dated postmark; unused block of six imperforate twopenny, and forty halfpenny, plate 8; registered envelopes and post-cards and the 1d. brown, perforated 15, large crown.

Mr. J. Milton. A good general collection, containing no rarities, but all fine picked specimens.

Mr. M. Z. Kuttner (London) sent thirteen large frames containing a mass of valuable stamps, prominent among which was a fine block of four 1d. reds, printed on the Dickinson paper (silk thread); Archer rouletted, 1d., used; pair, unused, 6d., octagonal; used, 2s. brown (fine); entire pane, 1s., plate 4; several fine used specimens of the 10d., octagonal; a reconstructed sheet of the 1d. rose, perforated 14, large crown; Beaufort House essays; 150 varieties of foreign and colonial cancellations on British stamps; Guildhall postcard and invitation to Guildhall conversation; House of Commons envelope; Kensington ditto with Harry Furnis's caricature; Mulready envelope and covers, ante-postage stamp cancellations, &c., &c., also a large quantity of unused adhesives, the same marked "specimen," and

several imperforate varieties, including 4d. drab, plate 15.

Mr. F. A. Pearse contributed five sheets of British fiscals or revenues, containing representative embossed and surface printed stamps, some of which are of exceeding rarity. They were divided as follows:—England, English municipalities, Scotland, Ireland, Isle of Man.

Mr. A. Levy (hon. secretary), who exhibited a portion only of his well-known collection of British stamps, made a large show. The principal items were an unsevered block of 48, imperforated 2d., plate 4, the top four lines of sheet with margin and inscription; large blocks and single copies of the 1d., with the various perforations and watermarks, in numerous shades of brick red to crimson, a fine specimen of the large crown, perforated 16, rose, all unused; the same being also shewn complete with all the twopenny stamps on the original letters, including a pair of the early Archer perforated stamps, on envelope, post-marked October 24th, 1850, although the Archer perforating machine was not adopted officially until 1854. The penny and half-penny red, plate numbers complete, nearly the whole being in blocks of six or nine. The twopenny, plate numbers complete, unused with shades. With few exceptions, the whole of the values up to 1s., with their plate numbers complete, unused. Fine used copies of the 10s. and £1 Maltese cross and anchor, white and bleute paper. Mulready 1d. and 2d., envelopes and covers, used and unused, also caricatures of same. Used and unused I. R. officials, Government parcels, telegraphs, unused letter sheets, and silk thread envelopes, various dies, Post-Office Jubilee Christmas-card, reconstructed sheets of the 1d. black, and 1d. red imperforate.

LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

May 13rd. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. I. A. Tilleard, read a letter from the Secretary of the British North Borneo Company in regard to the lithographed Labuan stamps, and the letter was referred for consideration to the Committee on "speculative issues." The business of the evening consisted of the revision of the reference list of the stamps of Hamburg, which was completed.

May 10th. Two new members were elected. Mr. E. J. Nankivell read a paper on the "Chilian First Issues," which dealt with the 5 and 10 cent values issued between 1853 and 1865. The various printings and papers employed, with the several watermarks, and the cancellations found on the stamps were fully described, and for the convenience of members in following the paper, Mr. Nankivell handed round copies of a reference list which he had prepared, containing also particulars of the numbers of stamps issued in each year, with *facsimiles* of the watermarks and cancellations to which reference was made.

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Complaints having been made about the making of members' sheets with catalogue prices, notes of exclamation, &c., and it being undesirable that such things should be done—either by the Secretary or anyone else—Mr. Brammah gave notice of the following motion, "That no member shall initial or mark any stamp, unless the same be a forgery or reprint, and in all cases members' initials must accompany their remarks." This was seconded by Mr. Hunt, and as a motion agreed to.

After the ordinary business, the secretary submitted for the inspection of the members various publications of Messrs. Harry Hilckes and Co., including their "Universal Series," English Catalogue, Reprints; and how to detect them, Stock Books, &c.

The style, binding, and arrangement of the "Universal Series" were much admired, the English Catalogue especially being considered very useful. This concluded the business, and the meetings were adjourned until October.

R. SNEATH,

Hon. Secretary,
166, Devonshire St.,
Sheffield.

EDINBURGH AND LEITH SOCIETY.

At a meeting held on June 15th, 1895, Mr. Schnepel (president) in the chair, Mr. W. Fish read a paper on the stamped wrappers of the Argentine, of which the following is an extract:—

"From an examination of these, and particularly of the lines under the words Republic Argentina, he had found that there are many distinct varieties of the various issues, not referred to in the most advanced catalogues."

Specimens of these varieties were shown to the members; and Mr. Fish was awarded a hearty vote of thanks for his highly interesting paper. Mr. Schnepel showed a copy of Great Britain, 1864, 1d. red, plate 126.

It was decided that during the summer months no papers should be read to the Society.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Mr. Atkinson, the Hon. Secretary of the Exchange Club, also gave a report of what had been done in that branch of the Society, after which the Hon. Treasurer explained the financial position of the Society, which it appeared was in a very satisfactory condition.

All the present officers of the Society were then re-elected, except that Mr. Stamford was elected as a Vice-President in the place of Mr. W. M. Gray, who desired to be relieved from that position.

The first meeting of the next session will be held on Tuesday, the 1st day of October next. W. H. SCOTT, Hon. Sec., Piccadilly, Bradford.

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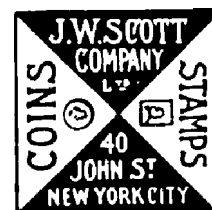
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THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 21.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. The City of London Philatelic Club. Rochdale Philatelic Society.
Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Sheffield Philatelic Society.

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 The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.

No. 21.—Vol. I. SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1895. ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	169
The very latest Germ	169
Rambling on the Continent	170
Philately at Home	170
English Stamps Used Abroad	171
City of London Philatelic Club	171
Between Ourselves	172
The Truth about the Stamps of Seebeck	172
English Penny Red (Plate 126)	173
Secret Marks of Switzerland	173
Forgers and their Work	174
Philately Abroad	174
Our Forum	176
Answers and Correspondence	176

"society" contemporary, has a good word to say for philately. "The collection of postage-stamps (it says) may not be a very heroic pursuit, but it is a surer guarantee of a useful career in the future than the dashing about to theatres and night-clubs, which with many young men does duty for seeing life nowadays. The future legislator who collects postage-stamps will at any rate know something of the geography, perhaps of the history and politics, of the various countries of the world when his time comes for dealing with them."

The Very Latest Germ.

(Some Vienna Doctors have just announced that they have discovered Bacilli in the gum of Postage Stamps.—Vide Daily Papers.)

We know that from the housetop
 To the cellar down below;
 In numbers great they lie in wait
 For man their ancient foe.
 They grow apace when the air is dry
 And flourish when 'tis damp;
 But the latest thing they grow in is
 The common postage stamp.
 To meet in congregation
 Is certain death we know.
 In crowds and public places too
 These things delight to grow;
 We know they like an arid plain,
 And love a marshy swamp;
 But doctors, dear, you might have spared
 Our cherished postage stamp!
 Each sacred ark of man you've touched
 With desecrating hand;
 Your myrmidons of war and death,
 Are broadcast through the land;
 And yet to all your dreadful pile,
 Another thing you clamp,
 By teaching us there's danger in
 Each little postage stamp.
 Oh wonder-working science men,
 Who tell in awful terms,
 That in these common garden things
 Lurk pathogenic germs;
 Let lie your great discoveries,
 Your theories cast away,
 We still will love our postage stamp,
 In spite of all you say.

PERCY R. GIBBS.

Philatelic Personalities.

MR. CHEVELEY'S accident, we greatly regret to hear, was much more serious than was at first supposed. The genial auctioneer's arm was broken, although he was himself unaware of the fact for some days after the mishap. Fortunately auctioneers have temporarily ceased to trouble, and Mr. Cheveley can take things easily for a time.

If we may believe *Modern Society*, the young Duke of Manchester has joined the stamp collectors. He is one of our poorest Dukes—poorer even than the Duke of Argyll—but what is poor for a Duke is wealthy for a commoner, and besides, His Grace of Manchester is very young yet. Philately is just the thing to keep him out of mischief, and thus help him to retrieve the attenuated fortunes of the house of Montague.

* * *

THIS makes three Dukes (two of them royal), two Earls, about ten lesser peers, and any number of knights and baronets engaged in the gentle art of stamp getting. Philately progresses apace.

THE DUKE, who will not attain his majority for three years yet, has already got together the nucleus of a decent collection and, according to *Modern Society*, spends a good deal of money on his hobby. It is noteworthy by the way, that our

Will you assist us? You can easily do so. ➡

Rambling on the Continent.

By HARRY HILCKES.

(continued from page 167.)

ON my perambulations through Germany I reached at last the capital, Berlin. Very few are aware, even in Germany, that among the five or six clubs which are known to exist, there is one Society which does an immense amount of thoroughly scientific work, which now and then gains shape in a useful book or a thoroughly worked-out essay of more or less magnitude. I had the good fortune to be in Berlin on a meeting day, and was promptly invited by Dr. Brendicke to attend. As it happened, the S.S.S.S. was up for discussion; and a very animated and thorough discussion it was. The radical policy advocated by the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY for the last six months, found a very warm supporter in Dr. Frankel, whereas a moderate policy was the theme of Director Lindenberg's able remarks. These were the points which were mentioned:—

The S.S.S.S. circulated on a post card on 10th of June, as follows:—

"Notice is hereby given, that the Society having taken into consideration the Stamps (or other postal matter) enumerated below, has decided and do declare the same to be speculative or unnecessary, and warns all whom it may concern not to deal in or collect the same."

1. "Portugal. 'Santo Antonio' Centennial Stamps."
2. "Chinese Locals: that is to say, any issues for Chefoo, Chinkiang, Chinking, Hankow, Ichang, Kewkiang, Tientsin, or Wuhu, appearing after this date, or for any other place in China of a like nature."
3. "North Borneo and Labuan. The 4, 10, 20, 30, and 40 cent surcharged on 1 dollar red appear to be unnecessary."

By Order,

GORDON SMITH, *Secretary.*

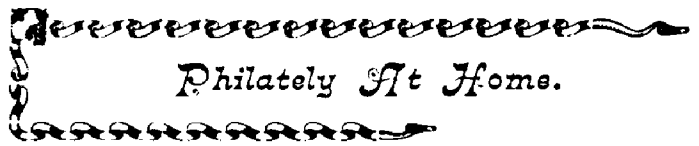
Director Lindenberg objected to our condemnation of the St. Antoine stamps, on the grounds that they were *not* of a speculative character, but issued by the Portuguese Government to commemorate a certain event. With all due deference to Mr. Lindenberg's opinion I cannot agree with him. Is it likely that the Portuguese Government would have gone to the trouble of issuing special stamps if they did not intend to palm them off in great quantities on the only too confiding philatelists? No! emphatically No! He further objected to our not including the local issues of Shanghai. There is a reason for that. We know that Wuhu, etc., are little better than, say, Hamburg locals, but the Shanghai stamps represent a certain postal service. How far these are to be classified as philatelic treasures, the enquiries which have been set on foot must teach us. He further objected to our including the North Borneo surcharges. Well, I am unable as yet to say whether they are purely speculative or not; but I believe we are right in condemning them. In my opinion it is a lesser evil to discredit an issue and afterwards pronounce its bona fides, than to admit a series as of irreproachable character, and then when everyone is planted with same to state that they are "gumpaps." No doubt once the S.S.S.S. is in working order, and once we have our correspondents everywhere, fewer mistakes will be made. There is no difference of opinion in Germany that the S.S.S.S. is and will be a most useful body, and if the prophecy of such an authority as Director Lindenberg is worth anything, tens of thousands of members will be at our back in a very short time.

At the same meeting the P.P.A. came up for discussion, and I was inundated with queries as to the P.P.A.'s much-talked-of "communication to the German postal authorities." Director Lindenberg, who, as head of the Imperial Postal Museum, is closely connected with the German postal administration, has heard nothing whatever about it. Did the P.P.A. address its letter to the right quarter, I wonder?

In looking through the stocks of some of the Berlin dealers I was surprised to see such a large number of rare stamps in absolutely perfect condition; hardly any bad copies could be seen. The idea prevails in this country, that only here

English Colonials find a market: but this is quite wrong. In fact, in point of numbers, I believe there are more collectors of British Colonials in Germany than in this country. Certainly prices rule higher there for many varieties than they do here.

(To be continued.)



Philately At Home.

NEWS FOR BRISTOL PHILATELISTS.

OUR readers in Bristol will be pleased to hear that a philatelic club room is about to be opened to the philatelic public of that city by Mr. Frederick C. Fisher, a local cigar merchant, himself much interested in philately. Mr. Fisher moves into his new premises on or about August 10th. The apartment intended for the club room is a spacious one on the first floor.

PHILATELIC THIEVES!

THIEVES broke into the premises of Mr. G. Wiegand, 302, New North Road, Islington, N., on 18th June, at about 2 o'clock in the early morning, and came away with a substantial booty in the shape of stamps. They managed to get in from the back, taking two doors off their hinges in so doing. The stamps stolen were kept under the counter in three or four memorandum books and two exercise books; the thieves also took several loose stamps and about £7 or £8 in money. There were about 3,000 stamps taken, a good many of which were marked on the back with the initial "G," and could therefore be easily recognised by the owner. Should any stamps, so marked, be offered, Mr. Wiegand would be glad to hear of it.

A PRICE LIST WITH TOO MANY PRICES.

A NEATLY arranged, and in many respects very commendable price list of stamps of Great Britain, British North America, U.S.A., and West Indies, is being issued at one shilling by the London Philatelic Company, of Great Portland Street, London, W. We notice in the "Preface" the following: "In the event of no price being given to a stamp it is most likely out of stock." From this one is to infer that, that all the stamps priced are in stock. But we have our doubts. We do not think any firm of stamp dealers in this country, or in any other country, could show specimens of every stamp priced in the London Philatelic Company's publication.

A GUMPAP "CONCESSION" GOES A-BEGGING.

MR. CHARLES J. PHILLIPS entertains us in the *Monthly Journal*, by the insertion of the following letter recently received at 391, Strand:

"DEAR SIRS,—Knowing your firm as the greatest dealers in postage stamps, I take the liberty to ask your attention for the following business. On my trip to the Upper Congo and sister rivers, I entered in a tract of friendship with a free Arab king, and bought from him the concession to make stamps of his kingdom. I am in possession of the signed act, design of the king's face, and of all the other particularities wanted to make the stamps and irons to prepaid; and as I should like to sell you the concession, I offer it to you for the time of two years, at the price of £100 (hundred pound sterling).

"Awaiting your answer as soon as possible,

"I am, Gentlemen, yours truly,

(Signed) "H. WATTEL."

It need hardly be said that "H. Wattel" is still "awaiting the answer" of the premier stamp firm.

COUNTRIES NEGLECTED BY SPECIALISTS.

IN a paper read the other week before the London Society, Mr. Robert Ehrenback descanted upon "Fashions in Stamps," and spoke of the way in which certain countries are all the rage and certain other countries are left out in the cold. "I will just mention a few" (said Mr. Ehrenback) "which might repay anybody largely the trouble of working them up—countries to suit every purse, and may it be hoped also everybody's taste. Of the cheaper countries I should name Chili, Greece, Dutch Colonies, Egypt, Spanish, and Danish

West Indies. These are all very straightforward, and there is no humbug with surcharges or collectors' issues about them. The Perkins-Bacon issues of Chili are as pretty stamps as any I could name, and their shades, paper, and watermarks afford enough material for quite an elaborate study, considering how little is still known about them."

A NEW NAME FOR THE P.P.A.

MAJOR EVANS, we imagine, is taking a holiday, and has delegated his duties to some less-experienced hand. We cannot believe that the editorials in the current issue of the *Monthly Journal* are the work of the gallant Major, who we feel sure would be the last to assist in the vile work of bolstering up such an admittedly rotten concern as the Philatelic Protection Association. "May we venture to suggest," asks the *Monthly Journal*, "that the much-abused Philatelic Protection Association has done something to rid us of these troublesome pests?"—meaning, of course, forgeries and forgery-mongers. The suggestion is as unwarranted as the hypothesis which gives rise to it. The forgery difficulty becomes yearly more acute. Why we could almost fill the FORTNIGHTLY every time it appears with news about forgeries alone. What about the Turkey 25 piastres, all those famous Naples forgeries, which we photographed from time to time? Yet the spirit of the P.P.A. hops forward with the buoyancy of a pantomime sprite,—waves its two-guinea-per-annum wand, says "hey-presto-go!" and lo! the forgeries vanish and the forgers cease to trouble. Bah! this precious Association is not well named. It should be called the Philatelic Prestidigitateurs' Association.




That many of the forgeries become invisible so far as P.P.A. officials are concerned we can well believe. There are none so blind as those who won't see. Never in the history of philately were we so pestered with forgeries as at the present time. And perhaps we may be allowed to venture to suggest that Major Evans knows it. The sooner our gallant friend's *locum tenens* is relieved, the better for philately and for "ter-euth."

English Stamps Used Abroad.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 162.)

- G 06
Byrout (Syria). 1d. rose-red, plate 184.
2d. blue, plate 13, 14.
2½d. lilac-rose, plate 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17.
2¾d. blue, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23.
2½d. lilac (1884).
4d. orange, plate 11, 12.
4d. vermilion, plate 15.
4d. mouse-brown, plate 17 (garter-crown).
5d. black-violet.
5d. green (1884).
6d. dark buff, plate 11.
6d. grey-green, plate 12.
10d. pale brown.
1sh. green, plate 9, 13, 14.
1sh. salmon, plate 13.
2sh. blue.
5sh. rose, plate 1.
- 942
Nicosia (Cyprus). 2½d. lilac-rose, plate 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16.
4d. sage-green, plate 16.
- 969
(Cyprus) 2½d. lilac-rose, plate 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16.
4d. sage-green, plate 14.
- D 22
Venezuela
(Ciudad Bolivar). 4d. sage-green, plate 16.
1sh. green, plate 13.
- D 27.
Amoy (China). 4d. orange, plate 11.
- D 30

- Hiogo (Japan). 1d. rose-red, plate 117.
D 87
- Iquique (Peru). 6d. grey-green, plate 12.
10d. pale brown.
1sh. green, plate 8.
- E 53
Port Au Prince
(Hayti). 4d. vermilion, plate 15.
4d. mouse-brown, plate 17, (crown).
1sh. green, plate 13.
1sh. salmon, plate 13 (spray).
- O * O
(Crimea) 1d. red-brown  perf 16. Die I.
1d. ditto  perf 14. Die II.
1d. ditto  perf 14.

This concludes the list. A few additions have already come to hand. Will all those of my readers who possess other stamps than those named in my list, kindly send them to me with a view to have them chronicled, as I propose to issue a revised list with the second edition of my English Catalogue which will appear in the autumn? H.H.

(The End.)



City of London Philatelic Club.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, *Monthly Offers*, *The Monthly Journal*, and A. Smith & Son's *Monthly Circular*.

From France: *Revue Philatelique*, *L'Intermediaire de la Timbrologie*, (Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb., March, April and May), also the Annual for 1895 of "La Societe Philatelique Francaise."

From the United States: *The American Journal of Philately*, *The Philatelic Journal of America*, *The Post Office*, *Philatelic Facts and Fancies*, and *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*.

From Buenos Ayres: *El Filatelista Sud-Americana*, (Jan., Feb., March, April and May), also "Guia Filatèlico Centro y Sud-Americanos (for 1891, 1892, 1893 and 1894), from L. Sobrino, editor of *El Filatelista*.

The Librarian also begs to thank Messrs. R. F. Albrecht & Co., New York, for a bound volume of their Auction Catalogues (priced), Nos. 22 to 29.

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings at Cossavella's Restaurant, 121, Cheapside, E.C.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

DURING the summer months meetings will only be held once a month as follows:—July 18th, August 15th, and Sept. 12th. Many new members have recently joined, and there is little doubt that the Committee will be able to recommend the acquisition of a proper club room *open at all times of the day*.—Full particulars will be sent to members as soon as the Committee have decided what steps are to be taken.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP,

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

To Our Contemporaries.

WE desire to exchange regularly with every philatelic journal at home or abroad. Will all those editors who have not yet done so kindly send *two* copies of their publications, and we shall be pleased to reciprocate.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
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Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JULY 13, 1895.

. . Between Ourselves . .

It is just possible that the S.S.S.S., in its first glow of enthusiasm, will do some things wrong and leave entirely undone certain other things which call urgently for attention. Everyone connected with the Society is very enthusiastic. That is always so at the outset. But the pity is that in our enthusiasm we are all talking at once, and in some cases talking to very little purpose. We do not suggest that too many cooks are going to spoil the broth. *Au contraire*, we want more cooks—more advisers, that is to say. Every individual philatelist has his own idea as to how to combat the gumpap evil and how to hasten the dawn of that happy day—

When the Seebecks cease from troubling,
And St. Antoine is at rest.

And if only the quiet, steady-going amateurs, whose names the world never hears, but who constitute the backbone of philately, would only come forward with their views and opinions much good might result. Many readers of the FORTNIGHTLY, we doubt not, have thought of ways and means which have never occurred to the Committee of the S.S.S.S. We appeal to such readers to use the FORTNIGHTLY as the vehicle that shall convey their ideas on this all important subject. Our task is one in which every philatelist who cares twopence for his hobby should be proud to bear a hand.

* * *

FROM the continent comes a case which involves a question of great importance to philatelists. Is a philatelist, when offered a stamp or stamps which **When Law-yers differ.** he discovers to be forged or "faked," justified in detaining the said stamp or stamps? We say decidedly yes! But to the case in point. An engineer was recently offered some specimens of the 37½c. brown, of Luxembourg, issued in 1866, and now quoted in the philatelic market at something like 35s. a piece. These stamps had not been long in the engineer's possession ere he discovered that they were copies of the one franc surcharge on the 37½c. brown, the surcharge having been cleaned off. This being so, he very properly placed the matter in the hands of the Berlin criminal authorities, who instituted proceedings against the person offering the stamps—a stamp dealer in Luxembourg. In course of time the case was heard, and it was decided that the eleven stamps must be destroyed and not returned to the sender. Thereupon the Luxembourg worthy sued the engineer for the return of the stamps; and there at present the matter stands. It is stated, however, that one of the judges has given his opinion

privately that the defendant had no right to hand over the spurious stamps to the officials of the criminal department, but should have returned them to the plaintiff. Possibly this is good law, but that is all that is good about it. Had the defendant returned the stamps in the way suggested he would simply be helping the Luxembourg swindler to place the stamps in some more unsuspecting quarter.

The Truth about Seebecks.

A CHAT WITH MR. G. B. CALMAN.

THINKING to get a little nearer a solution of the Seebeck difficulty, a representative of the S.C.F. improved the shining hour by a journalistic raid upon Mr. G. B. Calman, at his rooms in DeKeyser's Hotel. Mr. Calman, it is well known, is "interested" in Seebecks, and it was concerning this interest of his that he at once commenced to speak.—

"Let me state at the outset," said Mr. Calman, "that my interest in Seebecks is much smaller than most people imagine. Anyone seeing an interview with me on the subject of Seebecks will say: "Oh yes! Calman! of course he's interested. It pays him to puff his own goods." "Now I want to tell such people that my profits from Seebecks represent less than one-tenth of my total trade in stamps. Moreover, if I could terminate my contract in Mr. Seebeck to-morrow, I would gladly do so—aye, and would *pay down one thousand pounds sterling for the privilege of doing so!*"

"I'm telling you this," Mr. Calman went on, "to dispel the impression, if possible, that I am interested in bolstering up speculative stamps, and am heartily with you in your anti-gumpap movement; I wish the committee all success. I have more money invested in stamps than any other three dealers in the world; and, mind you, *I except nobody*. Thus anything which affects philately deleteriously falls more heavily upon me than upon anyone else in the trade. Grasp that fact and you will see at once that I am not the man to stick up for anything bad. All the same I do not think your Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps should condemn the Seebeck issues."

"And why not Mr. Calman?"

"For a variety of reasons. In the first place, the Seebecks are not gumpaps, they are stamps issued primarily to meet the postal needs of important countries. In the second place, Seebeckism is an evil (if it is an evil at all), which will not extend. I can promise you that when the contracts terminate, as they will terminate in 1899, Mr. Seebeck will not entertain any request for a renewal. As it is, he has refused more than one offer from South American States, on the ground that the quantity of stamps required for legitimate postal purposes was so great that the cost of printing would swamp the profit on the sets afterwards sold to collectors. Another reason—and my best—is the danger of frightening young collectors off stamps altogether. You see you cannot expect the young beginner to exercise much discrimination. You will teach him only just enough to bewilder him. Then he will become disgusted and will end by throwing up stamps altogether—and then where will you be?"

"Frighten off the young collector, and what will become of the future of philately?" demanded Mr. Calman, taking a turn up and down the room as he warmed to his work. No answer being forthcoming from our representative, the energetic American dealer, who talks just as rapidly as he does everything else, continued:

"I say emphatically that there is no justification for condemning stamps which have been printed and issued by the hundreds of thousands and genuinely used for correspondence purposes. Nor is it one jot more justifiable to condemn these stamps because somebody is making something out of them. Consider! what does it cost the collector to supply himself with complete sets of Seebeck adhesives?—ten shillings a year only. So collectors are not taken in to a very great extent. And you must not forget that it might be very much

If you want to know how to "make a bit" and help us at the

worse! At present the Seebeckised States are limited to one issue a year, but there is no telling what they would have done during the last few years had it not been for that limitation. They would have had jubilee issues, commemoration sets, and what not; and it would have paid them a great deal better than their existing arrangement. They do not seem to see that. I almost wish they would, for then I could get out of my contract without paying down that £1000; and I rather think it would suit Mr. Seebeck's book very well, too!"

English 1d. Red, Plate 126.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

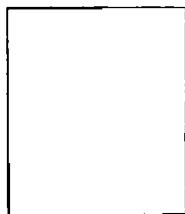
It is curious to note how persistently people will find things which do not exist. One day we hear of plate 70—"undoubted" of course—which however nevertheless invariably turns out to be 76. Another day two different plate-numbers are found. This is a technical impossibility which cannot exist but—still it is found! I have often been asked how it is possible to be so "cocksure" in condemning these varieties, and as the matter is of some importance I will endeavour to explain the futility of most of these "finds." Everyone knows, or perhaps ought to know, that the various letters in the corners of the early penny plate numbers are punched by hand on the soft steel roller; those who do not know this cannot do better than read the admirable paper on The Line-Engraved Issues of Great Britain by Mr. Fred. A. Philbrick, now appearing in the *P.F.G.B.* It seems to be an established fact that the most difficult thing to do in this world is to "do it right" and that is precisely what the various workmen at Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. found out, when they were ordered to punch the letter precisely in the square designed for that very purpose. Hardly any letter in any particular stamp is ever found in the middle of the square, let alone all four. But just this very irregularity is a blessing from a philatelic point of view. For instance, I once had a plate 70 (?) sent to me (for the modest price of £20 by the way), which had in the four corners the letter "G" in a most eccentric way. One nearly tumbling out of the square, one heavily leaning against one side of the square, as if it had just come home from a heavy dinner, one nearly crawling out of the square at the top, and the fourth trying to keep steady, with very indifferent results. Altogether, a more dissipated set of letters could not be found. In addition to this, the plate number certainly looked like 70.

Mr. Hastings E. Wright, the renowned English specialist, had a look at it, and finally compared the specimen with the Imprematr sheet of 76 at Somerset House, when lo! that self-same sheet contained a stamp with four "G's" of precisely the same drunken character, and in this copy also the plate number was a trifle indistinct. Of course, a more positive proof cannot be imagined, as it is in the highest degree impossible that a workman should have happened to punch one and the same stamp on two different rollers in precisely the same manner. But even if this were not sufficient proof, another equally indisputable fact was forthcoming. If one examines, say plates 200 and 166, it will be found that even if a 6 could, by means of a fine camel hair brush and red paint, be altered into an "o," there would still be the peculiarity to be reckoned with, that a six is more heavy on the left side, whereas a nought is invariably of even width all round.

Why, I hear my reader ask, does he write all this twaddle? Simply because in the last "Philatelic Supplement" to the *Bazaar*, Mr. Gaffe announced that he had "found plate 126." I had meanwhile an opportunity to examine the stamp and also submitted it to Mr. Wright, and we came to the conclusion that it was plate 120. Perhaps the editor of the *Bazaar* will inform his readers of this fact.

To Postal Subscribers.

PLEASE find on this space a 1 piastre Turkey, stamp, presented gratis to postal subscribers only.



same time, read about our "Prize Scheme" in No. 19, of the "Fortnightly."

The Secret Marks of The Stamps of Switzerland—1843-1854.

[This article was first published in 1893 by A. Larich, of Munich; the author, Freiherr C. v. Girssewald has kindly revised the German work for the special benefit of the readers of the "S. C. F."]

TRANSLATED BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 166.)

C. CANTON BASLE CITY.

July, 1845.

2½ Rappen; blue-black—carmine. Embossed.

This stamp (City post of Basle) is, without doubt, not only one of the prettiest of all the Cantonal Stamps, but of all Swiss stamps down to the present day. There are a great number of very successful forgeries of it, which are sometimes difficult to detect.

The distinctions are as follows:

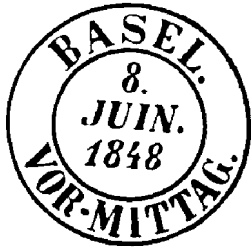
1. The coat of arms is surrounded by a fine double line; over the letters S.E. is the word "Basel" there is a dot between these two lines. A genuine stamp is never without this dot.
2. At both ends of the inscription, "Stadt-post-Basel," there are two palm-shaped ornaments. The one on the right side is narrower and longer than the other, and does not touch the outside frame line of the stamp.
3. Resting on the straight line above the coat of arms are two arabesques resembling interrogation marks placed horizontally. The curve of the one on the right side is longer



than the one on the left. The horizontal line upon which the right arabesque rests shows a very slight depression in the place where it is touched by the ornament.

By carefully noticing the above points one may detect a forged "Dove of Basle;" it is not sufficient, however, to find one or two of these distinctions, all three points must tally, or the stamp is sure to be a forgery.

Stamps of Basle, called in that time "Franking Tickets," in red and green colour instead of red and blue are errors of color. It is more than likely that the first batch which was printed in Frankfurt of Main, consisted of these blue errors. When it was noticed that a wrong color had been delivered, a new lot was at once ordered; the errors being kept by the Government were, no doubt, sold with the remainders of other stamps. It is quite possible that this error has actually been sold over the counter, although, undoubtedly, genuinely used copies are not known.



As regard the postmark, a red local stamp was commonly used. This was a double circle, bearing at top "Basel," at bottom the time of the day; for example, "Nach-Mittag" (afternoon). On the inside was the date, month and year. This local postmarking stamp is the oldest one in Europe. We also find the word



"Franco" surrounded by an octagonal line in red and black. Sometimes, also, but seldom, the letters P D in a oval. The forgeries are usually not cancelled, or if used specimens do occur, the postmark is very badly imitated; for example, a one circle local stamp much too small or one with very much blurred printing.

As the stamps are very fine, they are in great demand among collectors who collect them on original letters; this enlarges the field of the forger. Stamps are pasted on envelopes after valueless stamps have been removed from them, so that the postmark may be made to fit or nearly so. In examining a stamp one must be careful in this respect.

(To be continued.)

Forgers and their Work.

Special for the "S.C.F."

By HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 157.)

LUXEMBURG 37½ CENTS BROWN.

It is well known that while the above stamps, with surcharge "Un Frank," is a fairly common variety, the same stamp *without* the surcharge is getting scarcer every day, and cheap at 20/-. Of course, Mr. "Fakir," discovered that, and neatly erased the surcharge, retouching the stamp with a camel hair brush. They were sold to a Berlin collector, by one Faber, of Luxemburg, who, however, confiscated the stamps, and handed them over to the Berlin Courts, and these in turn, on the opinion of Director Lindenberg, gave an order for destroying the fraudulent article.

That was a prompt action, for which the engineer Krauth, the collector in question, deserves the thanks of philatelists in general.

NEW ZEALAND 1 Sh. GREEN.

It is not so very long ago that I saw a sheet sent out by a London dealer, to Holland, which teemed with the workmanship of the Ceylon engraver; among others was the 1sh. green of New Zealand, imperf., perf., rouletted, on blue paper, etc. In duty bound I sent the stamps to Mr. F. R. Ginn, the famous Secretary of the P.P.A., giving the address of the party in question.



GENUINE. FORGERY.

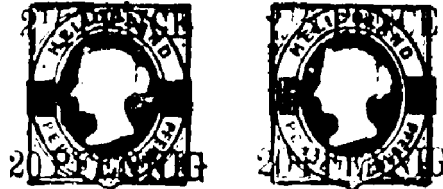
I was told that they had other complaints and would move. Of course, I heard nothing further.

The differences in this case are on the whole much the same as in the case of the Western Australian

stamps. Special attention, however, should be paid to the postmark, which *does not* occur in the original stamps; it is a fancy product, pure and simple.

HELGOLAND 20 Pf. ENVELOPE.

The fashion having set in for Heligoland stamps, I think I might just as well include a somewhat dangerous forgery of the rare provisional envelope in my list:



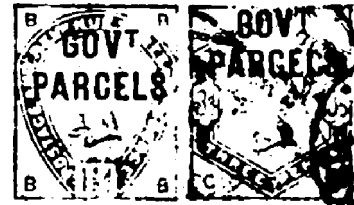
GENUINE. FORGERY.

The salient point of difference is the shape of the 2 in 20; also the G in Pfennig. The above photographs explain the same much better than any amount of description.

FORGED "GOVERNMENT PARCELS" AGAIN.

ISSUE 1884, 3d. LILAC; ISSUE 1887, 3d. BROWN ON YELLOW (current type).

In No. 7, we photographed the 1/- of the 1884 type, with the forged surcharge Government Parcels. We have now seen the above mentioned stamps with the same forged surcharge. We append a photograph of the 3d., together with the genuine type (on the 14d.), which will show much better the difference. The various letters almost exactly agree, but the distance between the two rows of letters is much smaller in the forgery than in the genuine one; also the position of the various letters in the top row, with reference to the bottom row is different. The "T," in Government, is too far to the left. Again, a careful study of the photograph will reveal other differences. The colour of the ink in the forgery is, however, the best test; if compared with any other surcharge printed by De la Rue, the genuine surcharge will show a peculiar gloss which is altogether absent from the forgery. We append precise measurement of the two lines of the surcharge, taken with our Ivory Surcharge Measure.



GENUINE. FORGERY.

"GOVT." 8½ mm. long, 3¼ mm. high. "PARCELS," 15½ mm. long, 3¼ mm. high. Distance between GOVT. and PARCELS, 1½ mm.

"GOVT." 8½ mm. long, 3¼ mm. high. "PARCELS," 14½ mm. long, 3¼ mm. high. Distance between GOVT. and PARCELS, 1½ mm.

(To be continued.)

Philately Abroad.

LETTER CARRIERS IN OLDEN DAYS.

THE I.B.Z. has a very curious description of a German Carrier Service which, although primitive, must have been of considerable value in those dark ages, when nothing was known of anything approaching our present postal system, let alone gumpaps and speculative issues. Of all trades the butchers of those days performed the duties of letter carriers.

Owing to the fact that butchers were obliged to travel from town to town to purchase live stock, they were a convenient medium for a more or less regular messenger service. Of course such service was at first most irregular, however, by and by, when the merchants themselves found that a regular postal service would be a great convenience, they concluded contracts with those butchers who regularly visited distant

towns, and very soon something like a systematic service was instituted. Arrangements were made by which the butchers left at pre-advertised times, and in some towns a special act was proclaimed by which the "Butcher-Post" was officially recognised. Not only letters and parcels were forwarded, but travellers could also go by this service, which in some way must have been similar to the English coaching times.

A decree of the Duke of Wurtemberg, dated 26th June, 1622, is known which gave most precise orders "how and what the Postmasters and butchers had to do." It is interesting to note that government officials were appointed who had to see that the horses were duly exchanged at each station, and who also marked on the letters the time of despatch and arrival.

The same authority also tells of the early postal service in Central and South America. Here regular runners, who could cover daily astonishing distances, were established, by means of which news would travel about 150 English miles in one day! Little depots were erected at distances of three and four miles, where day and night four messengers were waiting to run off at a moment's notice. All this was previous to the discovery of America, when those famous kings, Montezuma and Mahualpa, reigned over the wide districts on the Pacific coast. All news was either carried by word of mouth or by means of a "quipu," which was an arrangement of coloured threads knotted in different ways to indicate the various letters of the alphabet.

The "Chasquis," or government messenger, not only carried "quipos," &c., but also goods, such as hunting bags, &c. For instance, the inhabitants of a seaport, Tumbez, were in the habit of forwarding fish for the king's table. Only two days were required to cover the distance between the town mentioned and Cuzco, the capital which was 250 miles (English) from the coast. Whenever possible the river was used, the Indian runners simply swimming with the stream, assisted, perhaps, by a stray tree. The message, or whatever they carried was fastened to their heads.

There was no need to carry any provisions as the Chasquis would be fed wherever he came. The German savant Humboldt has often, even in our days, watched Indian runners on their way, and could testify to the astonishing quickness with which they travelled.

But once the Spanish authority began to grow this old native running service began to get disorganised; it happened not to be in the interest of the white conquerors that the various towns should be in communication with each other.

BELGIAN 5-FRCS STAMPS.

In a previous number we mentioned that the remainders of this stamp were to be put up for auction. This sale took place on the 25th June. The lowest was £24, including plate! The highest, £1600, or about 14 6 each stamp! Considering the long time this stamp was in use (from 1869 till end 1894), it is inconceivable why such a high price should be paid for the stamps. Most emphatically they are not worth it, and we cannot but predict that whoever invest in these stamp on the basis of the above price will lose money. No doubt the party who bought the stamp will ask say 25/- or 30/-. Well, if this stamp is really worth 30/- what would be the value of a Nevis 1/- CA., of which, perhaps 2,500 were ever issued? And are we quite sure that the Government will not "find" other remainders, in other words is there not the possibility that further lots may be reprinted and then "found"?

FOR COLLECTORS OF STAMP LITERATURE.

In the States there are many, like Mr. John K. Tiffany and Mr. H. E. Deats, who make a special fad of collecting every scrap of philatelic literature that appears. To such persons the "Check List of Philatelic Publications," issued by Mr. E. B. Jones, of Ruthven, Iowa, will come as a boon and a blessing. The list, which deals only with papers published in Canada and the States, is not well printed, nor is the arrangement of the book perfect. But for 25 cents one must not expect too much.

CONCERNING WURTEMBERG ENVELOPES.

We shall attempt nothing in the nature of a scientific review of Director C. Lindenberg's able monograph on the envelopes of Wurtemberg, just published by Dr. Brendicke,

of the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, at Kurfursten-Strasse, Berlin. It is sufficient to say that the book contains a surprising amount of information quite new to the philatelic world, and that it has been pieced together with all the care and nicety that characterises every scrap of Herr Lindenberg's literary work. Every student of Europeans ought to find a place for this book in his philatelic library.

CONVINCED AFTER SIX MONTHS.

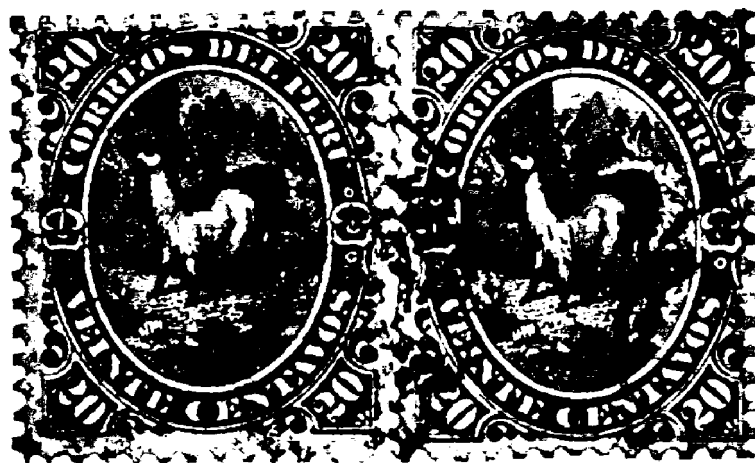
ONE by one the better known journals are informing their readers—in a stilted, pompous way, as if the discovery were their own—that the Nyassaland stamps are bogus! The "S.C.F." gave the philatelic world this information in January last. The Scott Stamp and Coin Company, in the July number of *A. J. of P.* offer to return all moneys paid for these rubbishing Salisbury goods.

QUEENSLAND VARIETIES.

A DISTANT friend, Mr. Stradana, of Brisbane, writes *Pearson's Weekly*, favours the *Stamp Album* with some interesting information about the recent philatelic changes in Queensland. A new design has been issued which consists in leaving out the shaded background between the portrait-bust and the oval frame, and which doubtless many of our readers have seen by this time. They were issued on February 28th. But during the preceding month some complications occurred in the Government printing office, which resulted in much interest to collectors. The ordinary paper, watermarked Q and Crown, having run out, a thick fiscal paper, with a very large Q and Crown mark, was temporarily used for the 1d. and 2d. issues, 1,200,000 of each being printed. These were in use only twenty-three days, when that paper also was exhausted, so far as the 1d. was concerned, and 300,000 penny stamps were printed on a paper with a blue band of fine network running across the back of each stamp (so called burelé). These were on sale February 19th to 28th, and will, no doubt, be rare. There is an error on the second stamp from the right-hand corner of the plate, which was repeated on 190 sheets before discovery. Something stuck over the letters PE, so that these 190 stamps bear the legend ONE NNY.

A NEW PERUVIAN ISSUE.

THE Director of Posts at Lima, after due consideration, has decided to put before the public, a new stamp of 20 cents, Turkey blue, and for this he has the authorisation of General del Ramo, by official decree of the 7th November. But this new stamp is really only an old type retouched—viz., the type of 1866. The new stamps have been received by General del Ramo, with great satisfaction, and he has ordained that the amount of 606 series of five each, be sent to the Official International Postal Union, under clause 2, paragraph 2, of article 33, of the Universal Postal Union, of the 30th of May, 1892. Below we give illustrations of the original stamp and the retouch.



OLD DIE.

RETOUCH.

The differences between the two dies are very minute. The most distinctive feature seems to be the clearer shading on the first Llama.

You may have noticed that when a man comes into our advertising columns he stops in.

BRITISH EAST AFRICAN STAMPS OBSOLETE.

THE territory of the British East Africa Company has been formally handed over to the English Government, on the 1st July last, and the glorious old Union Jack floats proudly—etc., etc. Ergo, the stamps of the British East Africa Company are now obsolete.

THE STAMP GAMBLE IN NATAL.

A LADY from Natal, who called at our office the other day, said that one gentleman alone had made £3000 in a few days over the surcharged stamp gamble. Another, a young clerk, made £900 in one day, but the parties who then invested at the terrific rates then ruling—£10 a sheet—cannot now realise at the very much reduced figure of £5 a sheet.

A BIG FRAUD IN BERMUDA.

IT seems now that the fraudulent Bermudas, of which early information was given in the FORTNIGHTLY, have been coming from the colony itself. A Mr. McK—is denounced by the *Bermuda Colonist* as guilty of circulating the stamps among local philatelists. The story briefly is this. Mr. McK—called upon the proprietor of our colonial contemporary—a Mr. Toddings—and asked him in his most plausible manner to surcharge a few cancelled stamps, "just to present to a few of his philatelic friends who could not afford to pay the high prices demanded for the genuine article." Mr. McK—looked honest, occupied a good position in Bermuda, and "seemed sincere and truthful;" and to cut a long story short, the guileless Toddings did what was wanted, and the plausible McK—seems to have made a fine thing out of it.

STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ABROAD.

SANDWICH Island stamps should boom, (*Krumbs* thinks), as it is not unlikely the government may be changed within a few years, and the present supply might not be sufficient to "go round."

A "philatelic bank" is a recent Parisian innovation of distinct and refreshing originality. It will do a general banking business for philatelists, and in addition, lend money on stamps and collections.



* * * Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

GUMPAPS AGAIN.

DEAR SIR,—Perhaps the enclosed extract from Norman's "Peoples, &c., of the Far East" may interest you in your energetic crusade against gumpaps. Matters must indeed be at a low ebb if philatelists continue to support such a dead-alive hole.

Upper Tooting, 27/6/95.

"To Macao . . . the scene of the dying struggles of a mongrel, fragment of a once intrepid and famous race, a fragment drawing its meagre sustenance with more difficulty every day . . . One peculiar source of revenue remains—the sale of postage stamps. Whenever Macao desires a lift for its treasury, it is able to secure it by abandoning one set of stamps and issuing another, when philatelists from all over the world eagerly add it to their inflated gumpaps collections. Our Consul declares that he has endless applications from different countries for stamps of this Colony."

FROM OUR READERS.

DEAR SIR,—The "Secret Mark" series of articles are admirable, and for these alone I should be a constant supporter of your splendid magazine. I wish you every possible success, and have no hesitation in saying that during the twenty years I have been amongst stamps, I have never met with a more deserving and solid philatelic periodical.

Yours faithfully, A. J. P.

Ramsay, Isle of Man, 26/6/95.

Answers to Correspondents.

* * * We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

H. H. P. (Brownswood Park).—(a) It is a difficult task to explain the difference of French colonials and those used for home purposes. An article on minor varieties is now in preparation and will duly appear in the FORTNIGHTLY.

(b) Stamps cut from envelopes are as a rule worth very little except in those cases where the envelopes are of excessive rarity. The Saxon envelope which you enclose is always worth 5/- although nearly cut to shape.

(c) The Italian current 20c. on pink paper is not official. No doubt it was soaked from an envelope of a somewhat vivid red tint, part of the latter having soaked into the stamp.

(d) Portugal jubilee stamps (Dom Henrique) are of very little value.—Stamps returned 8/7/95.

EDALEX (Vevey).—Your additions to our list of English Stamps used abroad have been duly noted.—B 64 is Seychelles, but we have so far not seen English Stamps used there. A 1 does not exist, only A 01 which is Jamaica. All others you mention are English postmarks. Our list is compiled from official sources, and is, we believe, quite correct as far as the description of the various foreign offices is concerned.

E.F.L. (Cornhill).—Your suggestion is a very good one, only we think the book compiled by Major Evans on the nomenclature of philatelic terms fully answered your purpose.—Burelé band on the back of the Queensland provisionals means a kind of engine turned ornament, about 1/4 inch in width, which runs across the entire sheet as a safe guard against forgery.

A.J.P. (Isle of Man).—Such letters as yours of 26th inst., are very welcome indeed to the editorial mind. In some quarters it seems quite inconceivable that such a thing as a disinterested policy can find advocates. For years, in a quiet, way we have clamoured for honesty in the stamp trade, as we saw that hardly a trade existed which harbours so many rogues as the trade in postage stamps. Even those who now hold their heads very high have sold forged stamps knowingly; but the counter current has set in and on the principle that a reformed thief is better than a confirmed thief, we are satisfied, so far.

BACK NUMBERS.

We have still Complete Sets left in Stock at the uniform rate of 1½d. each, post free, but as we are running short of No. 3 we have raised the price to 3d. per copy for that number.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.—Pages of Two Columns.

For One Insertion—	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Page	5 0 0	Whole Page	4 0 0
Half Page	2 15 0	Half Page	2 5 0
Quarter Page	1 10 0	Quarter Page	1 5 0
One-Eighth Page	0 15 0	One-Eighth Page	0 12 6

Pages of Three Columns.

For One Insertion—	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Column	1 15 0	Whole Column	1 8 0
Half Column	0 18 0	Half Column	0 15 0
Quarter Column	0 10 0	Quarter Column	0 8 6
One Inch	0 5 0	One Inch	0 3 6

TERMS:—Strictly Cash with Order.

Printed for the Proprietors, HARRY HILCKER & CO., LIMITED, by MESSRS PARDY & SON, Philatelic Printers, 8, The Triangle, Bournemouth, and Published at 64, Cheapside, London.



THE STAMP

COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 1895.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

Class a—Superb condition, if *unused* with gum, (mint state), if *used*, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked *

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.

(continued from page 27.)

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, May 29, 1895. (contd.)

b	Great Britain, £1 green, 4 copies	1 0 0
a	£5 orange, telegraphically used	2 10 0
b	Malta, ½d. buff, imperf.	2 10 0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. orange, late state	0 17 0
b	Large Fillet, 2d. blue	6 0 0
a	gd. magenta*	1 1 0
b	Natal, first issue, 3d. rose	0 11 0
c	ditto, 6d. green	1 0 0
b	ditto, 1d. blue*	1 2 0
b	Nevis, 6d. lilac	1 10 0
a	New Brunswick, 3d. red.*	3 3 0
a	6d. yellow*	20 0 0
a	1/- mauve*	36 0 0
a	Another, used	13 0 0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. scarlet-vermilion	3 15 0
a	6d. scarlet-vermilion	7 10 0
b	1/- carmine-vermilion	16 0 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 3d. green	0 17 0
a	(1863), 2d. blue, wmk. 1, strip of 3	0 15 0
c	Nova Scotia, 1d. brown	1 1 0
c	8½c. green	1 0 0
b	Oldenburg, second issue, 2gr. rose	0 18 0
b	third issue, ½gr. green	0 11 0
a	Queensland, 3d. brown, large star	0 15 0
b	St. Christopher, 6d. green on Nevis Revenue	0 12 0
a	St. Vincent, 1/- dark-blue*	3 10 0
a	1/- blue-black*	1 15 0
a	Sierra Leona, 6d. violet, imperf.*	8 0 0
a	South Australia, 2/- carmine, impression on back	0 13 0
a	ditto, a pair	1 2 0
c	Tasmania, 1d. blue	0 17 0
a	1d. red, no watermark*	2 10 0
a	Tuscany, 60 crazie, brick-red	8 0 0
b	United States, New York P.O., 5c. black	1 12 0
c	(1869), 90c.	1 8 0
b	Columbus, 1 dollar	0 13 0
a	Victoria, 1d. green, Queen on throne*	0 12 0
a	Wurtemberg, 70k. mauve*	2 17 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, June 11 & 12th, 1895.

b	Afghanistan (1871), 6sh., mauve	5 10 0
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CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
a	British Columbia, 2½d., pair	0 12 0
c	British Guiana (1862), 2c. crossed ovals, roulettes cut..	3 12 6
a	(1863), 1c. official, block of 4*	0 7 0
b	Cape of Good Hope, 4d. wood block, thinned	1 18 0
b	Ceylon, 8d. imperf.	11 10 0
c	2/- imperf., cut into	1 18 0
c	8d. star, perf., thinned	2 7 6
a	1/-, no wmk.	1 0 0
a	Great Britain, 1d. red on bluish, die I., roulette	0 10 0
a & b	1d. red-brown, imperf., 2 reconstructed plates, 8/- &	0 9 0
b	ditto, 2½d. on white, plate I.*	0 9 0
a	£5 on bluish, "Specimen"	1 13 0
b	India, 6 annas, long provisional*	1 6 0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., good colour, early state, small margins*	14 0 0
b	ditto, 2d., early state, large margins	6 5 0
a	Naples, 50gr.	3 0 0
a	Natal, first issue, 3d. rose on original	0 16 0
b	Another ditto	0 11 0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose on greyish	3 3 0
a	4d. orange, litho	1 5 0
a	1/- blue-green, perf. 15	1 8 0
a	New Brunswick, the Connell, proof on card	0 15 0
a	Newfoundland, 8d. carmine-vermilion*	0 16 0
b	5c. seal, black	0 11 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1	2 10 0
a & c	ditto 1d., plate 1, pair on piece of original	2 12 0
a	ditto 2d., plate 1	3 0 0
a	ditto 2d., plate 2	2 17 6
b	ditto 3d., green	1 13 0
b	Laureated, 1d. carmine, pair	0 11 0
b	ditto 2d. stars, 4 averaged	1 1 0
b	Diadem, 1d. orange, imperf.*	0 17 0
b	(1862), 5/- lilac*	1 12 0
a	10/- carmine and violet, O.S.*	0 18 0
b	New Zealand, 1d. imperf., pelure	2 12 0
c	6d. dark brown, roulette..	0 11 0
a	1/- green on blue	4 15 0
a	Nova Scotia, 8½c. green*	1 1 0
a	Oldenburg, third issue, 2gr. red	1 1 0
b	Queensland, 1/- mauve, no wmk., 2 copies	0 18 0
a	St. Lucia, 6d. green, star	1 19 0
a	St. Vincent, first issue, 4d. yellow*	3 5 0
a	ditto ditto " 1/- brown*	3 15 0
b	Spain, (1854), 2r. red, strip of 4 on piece of original..	0 11 0
a	Tasmania, 1d. blue	2 12 0
b	4d. orange.*	2 0 0
a	Trinidad, blue, litho.	5 10 0
b	United States, (1861) 5c. mustard	1 10 0
b	(1869) 24c.	1 0 0
c	ditto 90c. corner perf. gone	1 15 0
a	ditto, complete* set, (1875 reprint)	16 15 0
b	(1870), 30c. grille	1 2 0
b & c	Victoria, Queen on throne, strip of 4	0 16 0
b	Beaded oval, 4d. rose, wmk. Four Pence*	0 6 0
c	ditto, 6d. orange, perms. cut one side	6 15 0
c	ditto, 6d. dark orange	5 0 0
a	gd. on 10d.*	0 12 0
a	10d. slate,*	4 4 0
a	Western Australia, 6d. bronze	4 0 0
b	Another	2 5 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
<i>Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, June 13 & 14, 1895.</i>		
a	Barbados, first issue, half of 1d. blue, on piece of original	2 5 0
b	ditto, 2 such halves, on entire wrapper	5 0 0
b	1d. on half of 5/-	7 5 0
a	Bavaria, 1kr. black, on entire	0 18 0
c	Bergedorf, 4sch. brown, mended	2 4 0
a	Bremen, 7gr. yellow, imperf. on entire	5 0 0
b	British Columbia, 25c. yellow, perf. 12½, imperf. vertically	6 0 0
a	50c. violet, perf. 12½	2 0 0
c	British Guiana, 96c. bistre, thinned *	1 7 0
b	British Honduras, 2c., small type, on 6d. rose, perf. 12½	1 7 0
c	Canada, 7½d. green, slight mend	2 0 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, 4d., wood block	2 12 6
b	Ceylon, 4d. rose imperf., no margins *	8 10 0
c	8d. brown, imperf., poor margins	5 0 0
c	Another, good margins, but slightly torn	10 5 0
a	1/- violet, imperf., 6 copies	2 18 0
b & c	ditto ditto, 12 copies	2 8 0
c	1/9 green, imperf.	1 16 0
c	2/- blue, imperf., no margins	1 8 0
c	ditto, perf., star, thinned *	1 0 0
b	5d. brown, no wmk.	1 6 0
a	Denmark, first issue, 2rbs. blue *	1 10 0
b	4rbs. yellow-brown *	1 16 0
b	16sk. violet, imperf. *	1 6 0
b	Fiji, Times Express, 1/- on quadrille, cut and penmarked	2 14 0
b & c	Finland, Errors, 5p. black on buff, used, and 10p. brown on lilac, unused, but torn, Reserve £8	30 0 0
a	French Colonies, (1876), 2c. red-brown	1 2 0
a	Gibraltar, first issue, complete, *	3 5 0
a	Great Britain, 1d. black reprint, large crown, inverted, pair, *	3 3 0
b	1d. red, Archer roulette, pair *	4 0 0
a	1d. red, large crown, perf. 16, pair *	2 15 0
b	2d. blue, no lines *	1 4 0
2a 1b	ditto, strip of 3 *	11 0 0
a	ditto, perf. 14, block of 4, with top margin	4 4 0
a	3d. rose, imperf., secret mark, top margin, pair *	4 0 0
a	(1854), 6d. violet, cut square	0 16 0
b	ditto ditto, on yellowish, wmk. inverted, block of 4 original gum *	26 0 0
c	ditto, 1/- green, die 1 *	1 10 0
a	1/- green, imperf., plate 2 (hair lines) *	£2 and 2 4 0
b	2/- brown	2 12 6
a	India (1866), Service, 2a. black on violet	2 17 6
c	Livonia, 2k. (griffin) red and green	1 3 0
c	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., early state, slightly cut into at top	9 0 0
b	ditto, 1d., worn plate	1 0 0
a	Greek border, 2d. blue pair *	13 0 0
a	ditto 2d. blue	0 17 0
a	Britannia, magenta	0 15 0
b	Montserrat, 4d. blue, C.A.	3 10 0
b	Nevis, first issue, 4d. rose	2 6 0
c	ditto, another, creased	1 3 0
c	ditto, 6d. grey, perfs. cut one side	1 18 0
c	ditto, another, badly oxydised	1 6 0
b	ditto, another (? unused)	1 12 0
b	ditto, 1/- green	1 14 0
b	second issue, 1/- green,	£1 2s. and 1 12 0
c	third issue, 4d. yellow, litho, one perf. gone	0 16 0
a	ditto, 1/- light green, strip of 3, imperf between *	15 10 0
a	Newfoundland, 6d. orange-red, small margins	1 4 0
b	another, penmark	1 2 0
c	6½d. carmine-red, mended	2 15 0
c	1/- orange-red, no margins. cut into at top and bottom	5 5 0
b	1/- lake	0 12 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. plate 1 *	13 0 0
b & c	ditto, 1d. plate 1d., strip of 3, one torn	3 5 0
a	ditto ditto, plate 2	2 10 0
b	ditto, 2d. plate 3	0 16 0
b & c	ditto ditto, a pair	1 0 0
b	ditto ditto, plate 4	1 12 0
b	Diadem, 3d. green, imperf., 2 copies	1 0 0
a	ditto, 6d. grey, imperf., block of 4 *	11 0 0
a	ditto, 1/- carmine, imperf., wmk. 8, 3 copies	2 8 0
b	ditto ditto, strip of 4, on original	1 18 0
a	New Zealand, 2d. blue, no wmk., roulette	3 7 6
b	ditto, star, pin perf.	£4 8s. and 4 10 0
b	1d. brown, N.Z. wmk., pair	32 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
a	Nova Scotia, 6d. light green	1 10 0
a	Half of 6d. on entire	2 15 0
a	8½c. green *	1 3 0
b	Oldenburg, second issue, 2gr.	1 5 0
a	third issue, ½gr. *	1 12 0
b	Portugal, first issue, 100r. lilac, * and a reprint for comparison	5 0 0
c	another, used	1 16 0
c	Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf. *	3 15 0
a	1d. vermilion, Q and Crown, imperf. vertical pair *	1 1 0
b	ditto, strip of 3 *	1 14 0
a	2/6 pink, Q and crown, pair *	4 10 0
a	5/- brown, similar pair	4 10 0
a	(1880) 1d. red, burélé, vertical pair *	0 18 0
b	ditto, 2d. blue, ditto, 3 copies	1 12 0
a	St. Vincent, 4d. orange	2 4 0
a	½d. on half of 6d. light green, pair *	3 10 0
a	ditto, on half of 6d. dark green, pair *	13 0 0
a	2½d. on 4d. claret, 3 * copies	1 0 0
b	Sierra Leone, 3d. yellow, perf. 12½, C.C. sideways *	0 16 0
b	1/- green, ditto, ditto	0 12 0
b	South Australia, 3d. red on blue	1 4 0
b	M.B. in red on 6d. blue, roulette *	0 12 0
a	S.G. in red on 4d., 13 x 11½ *	0 12 0
a	Switzerland, Vaud, 5c. black and red	1 5 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue	1 14 0
a	1d. carmine, wmk. figure, roulette, pair	1 14 0
a	ditto, percé en arc *	1 12 0
b	ditto, ditto, 6 used copies	1 10 0
a	2d. light green ditto	4 4 0
a	2d. green, pin perf.	2 6 0
a	4d. blue, ditto	1 4 0
a	6d. violet, ditto, pair	2 4 0
a	Tobago, 6d. bistre, C.C.	2 7 6
a	Trinidad, litho, 1d. blue, fine impression	11 0 0
a	ditto, 1d. slate-blue, coarse, pair	10 0 0
a	ditto, 1d. blue	4 0 0
b	ditto, ditto on piece of original	£2 and 3 0 0
b	6d. green, imperf.	3 0 0
a	Tuscany, 9 crazie on white	2 18 0
a	United States, New York, 5c. black	1 5 0
b	Confederate (1863), 2c. rose, strip of 5 on entire	1 16 0
b	Uruguay, 120c. blue, block letters *	1 16 0
b	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, perf. 15 *	7 10 0
b	1/- carmine and black, single line *	3 12 6
a	Western Australia, 6d. bronze	9 9 0
b	(1860), 4d. blue *	0 12 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co.'s Sale, June 19th, 1895.

a	Barbados, 5/- lake	£1 8s and 1 10 0
a	British Guiana, 96c. bistre	1 12 0
b	British Honduras, 1d. blue, no wmk., imperf. *	2 0 0
b	Canada, ½d. rose *	1 6 0
c	Cape of Good Hope, wood block, 4d. blue	1 10 0
a	Ceylon, 9d. brown, perf., pair *	2 16 0
a	5d. brown, no wmk.	1 2 0
a	Great Britain, 3d. rose, spray, plate 18, block of 7 *	1 16 0
a	4d. sage green, plate 15, pane of 60 *	13 10 0
a	6d. slate, plate 15, block of 8 *	1 16 0
a	6d. grey, spray, plate 17, pair *	1 0 0
b	9d. straw, plate 4, 2 * copies	0 12 0
c	1/- green, small letters, plugged "K"	1 12 0
a	1/- green, plate 6 *	1 1 0
a	1/- green, plate 12, block of 7 *	2 12 0
c	India, long service, 2a. lilac and green	2 0 0
b	Labuan, 2c. green, C.A. sideways	2 10 0
a	6c. orange ditto	2 10 0
c	12c. carmine, C.A. sideways	2 14 0
b	ditto, C.C.	1 3 0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., early state *	17 10 0
b	Small Fillet, 2d., early state	2 2 0
c	Another, later	1 10 0
a	6d. green, no wmk., imperf., pair *	1 0 0
a	1/- buff, similar pair	0 16 0
a	Moldavia, 54 paras. blue on green	15 15 0
a	Montserrat, 4d. blue, C.A.	5 0 0
a	Naples, 20gr. lake *	0 12 0
a	Natal, 3d. pink	0 19 0
b	Nevis, 4d. orange, 2 copies, each	1 0 0
b	ditto *	1 12 0
b	ditto, litho	1 14 0

(To be continued.)

Doings of Societies.

- LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- SCARBOROUGH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.
- ROCHDALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- NORTHAMPTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- EDINBURGH AND LEITH SOCIETY.
- SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

No reports to hand on going to press.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The 4th annual meeting was held on the 17th May, at the Blackfriars Hotel, Mr. Vernon Roberts in the Chair. After the minutes of the last annual meeting had been read and confirmed, the President gave a brief address, congratulating the Society on its continued success and the great interest taken in it by the members, as evinced by the large attendance at the meetings. The Hon. Secretary then read the annual report. During the past session, which is the fourth of the Society's existence, fifteen ordinary and sixteen list meetings have been held. At each of the ordinary meetings, as hitherto, papers have been read, which contained matter of a useful kind for the information and guidance of members. The past session has not been at all sensational, but future events will show that good work has been done. There has been a slight increase of members during the year. The opening meeting proved most successful, and the lantern display which inaugurated the session received a most flattering notice in the leading philatelic journals. The lantern exhibitions have become more or less identified with the Society, and all philatelists are greatly indebted to Mr. Ridpath for bringing prominently forward a means by which much more can be learned from the stamps themselves than by a study under a microscope, however careful such a study may be. The usual annual dinner was held at Christmas. The Society is again indebted to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., Mr. Wm. Brown and others for gifts of books and magazines to the Library. The hearty thanks of the Society are tendered to them, also to the *Manchester City News* and the various philatelic journals for the insertion of the reports of our meetings.

The Hon. Treasurer presented his financial statement, showing a balance in favour of the Society of £10 6s 10s.

The ballot for the election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—President, Vernon Roberts; Vice-Presidents, W. Dorning Beckton, J. H. Abbott; Hon. Secretary, W. W. Munn; Assist. Hon. Secretary, C. H. Cote; Hon. Treasurer, G. B. Duerst; Hon. Librarian, F. Barrat; Committee, G. F. H. Gibson, W. Grunewald, R. Petri.

After some discussion it was resolved to try a Stamp Exchange Packet, to circulate amongst members of the Society only. A Secretary and Sub-Committee were appointed to draw up rules, so as to start at the beginning of next session. The meeting was brought to a close by a private auction of members' stamps. The bidding was brisk and a large number of lots were sold. On the 25th May the session was terminated by a picnic to "Ye Ancient City of Chester," with a sail up

the River Dee past Eaton Hall.—W. W. MUNN, Hon. Sec., Ashfield, Peel Causeway, near Altrincham.

BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

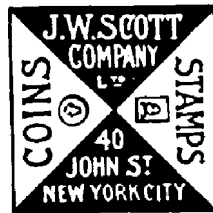
MAY 16th. Messrs. W. Vibert and W. Ward (Jersey), were unanimously elected Members.

Offers of exchange were received from the Milan Society and were cordially accepted, but the final arrangements were deferred until the Autumn Session.

Subscriptions were voted to the *American Journal of Philately*, *Metropolitan Philatelist*, *Philatelic Journal of America*, *Post Office*, and *The Australian Philatelist*.

Messrs. Pimm and Johnson then exhibited their collections of British North America.

The Jan. and Feb. packets (£200 14s. 11½d. and £197 5s. 1d.) have been returned. £53 3s. 4d. and £58 11s. 2d. had been purchased from them, in addition to £15 13s. 7d. net cash purchased from the Canadian packet, which was circulated with the Jan. packet. The last four packets have been £248 19s. 5d., £247 11s. 1d., £221 9s. 6d. and £254 4s. 4½d. The summer so far seems to have increased rather than diminished them.



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[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 2d. for every six words. — Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

GIBBONS' Philatelic Diary, 16 postal order. Published 27, Hornwood, Chichester

200 GENUINE STAMPS, all different, post free 1/1. Cheap Approval Sheets, or will send on receipt of satisfactory reference, selections of Good Medium Stamps, priced low. Correspondents desired Abroad.—J. LOUIS, 159, Fortress Road, N.W.

60 GENUINE VARIETIES, including Hind, Saint Vincent, Macao, scarce Provisional, Puttialla, Lorenzo Marques, Persia, Newfoundland, Lagos, British East Africa, Azores, Mauritius, Gibraltar, Falkland Islands, &c.—SMITH, Arthur Road, Kingston, Surrey. 1

GIBBONS' NEW CATALOGUE, 36, unused 5d. Turks Island included. 5 lots, 15/-; 14 lots £2. Prepaid.—Hornwood, Chichester. 15

50 Different Stamps including Salvador, Travancore, Ecuador, Natal, uncharged, Montenegro, Guatemala, etc. Post free, 7d. Worth treble. Cheap Approval Sheets, 25 per cent. discount.—S. A. TOMES, 21, Fishers Lane, Chiswick.

EXCHANGE SOCIETY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS. THE LARGEST AND BEST STAMP EXCHANGE in existence, conducted on RULES OF EXCHANGE (PURE AND SIMPLE). Subscription, 1/- per annum. Nearly 200 Members. Full particulars, and all information necessary for New Members, will be sent free on application to The Secretary, Mr. C. FORBES, Hon. Librarian, City of London Philatelic Club, 42, Strahan Road, London, E. Foreign correspondence desired with Dealers and Collectors. 16

80 GOOD STAMPS, including: Malta, Bolivia, Deccan, Argentine, 5 Japan, West Australia, Gold Coast, Bulgaria, Servia, Puttialla, Cyprus, Peru, etc., post free, 1/1. Cheap approval sheets sent if desired. F. MACKAY, 106, Rochdale Road, Harpurhey, Manchester.

FREE! FREE! FREE! 100 Stamps all different, Good, clean, and entire specimens, post free, 1/2! To every fifth purchaser I will present free of charge, a Genuine Triangular Cape of Good Hope Stamp.—C. NISSEN, 279, Brunswick Buildings, Aldgate, E.

GRATIS! A grand set of 6 Old Unused Swiss given away free to all genuine Collectors. Applying for Approval Sheets, enclosing 1d. Stamp for Postage.—E. WOOD, 9, Hoxton Street, London, N.

WANTED by Collector. Genuine Collectors Duplicates at 1d. to 1d. each. No Dealers. Send on approval to PAUKERT, 45, Queen's Road, Brownswood Park, N.

CHEAP English Penny Red, Plate Numbers unassorted, 13 per 1000, 10,000 7/6; Imperforate, 3/6 per 1000. Perf 16, Small Crown, 3/6 per 100; 2d. Blue, plate numbers, 5 per 100. Penny Red, Imperforate complete plate, 6/- contain only picked copies. Small Half penny, Lake—1870, 3/- per 100.—C. NISSEN, 279, Brunswick Buildings, Aldgate, E.

I WISH to receive approval sheets, and sets of any ENGLISH Postage Stamps SURCHARGED for Colonial use, e.g., Zululand, Cyprus, Niger Coast, Oil Rivers, &c. First attention given to cheap Sets, afterwards single specimens. Both used and unused wanted.—EDWARD HERON-ALLAN, 3, Northwick Terrace, Maida Hill, N.W.

WANTED—Collectors' Duplicates of European and other Stamps from 1d. to 2d. each to fill up gaps in collection.—"CLERK'S," Office of this paper.

PRUSSIAN Envelope, 1861, 75bg, red, silk threads, catalogued 50/-, price 30/- Old Prussian and German adhesives on entire. Envelopes of France, &c., franked 1870 to 11. PHILATELIST, 48, Canningham Road, Shepherd's Bush.

DUPLICATES—British Colonials, Old European, medium U.S.A., mostly half price with discount. State requirements. No dealers.—PHILATELIST, 48, Canningham Road, Shepherd's Bush.

CYCLISTS—Advertiser would be glad to hear from Collectors to form Exchange Club, to meet on S.W. Roads. Send address for particulars. STOKES, 13, Lindore Road, Battersea Rise.

NATAL PROVISIONAL, half on 1d., scarce: Gwalior, Nabha, Hind, Tobago, Timor, Siam, Shanghai, Perak, Faridkot, Gibraltar, Saint Lucia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Alwar; thirty five genuine varieties. E. SMITH, Arthur Road, Kingston, Surrey.

WANTED No. 2 Stanley Gibbons' Monthly, clean copy. G. H. HUST, 21, Southbourne Road, Sheffield.

OFFERS? Silk thread envelope, "Albino," ditto double print (one coloured); both used perfect. Approval; references.—CAPTAIN NORTHLEY Warwick.

ENGLISH, 1843, Maltese Cross, Nos. 1 to 12, 5/3; Ivory Heads, 6d each; reds, blue postmark, 2/-; Envelopes, pointed flaps, silk thread, 10/- doz; 100 1-cals (no English), all different, 3/-; 20 Netherlands, including 1st issue, 9d.—SANTOS STAMP CO., 35, Alwyne Villas, Canonbury.

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ALFRED SMITH & SON
BATH. [10]

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1875	BELGIUM, 5 francs, brown	1 5 0
1861	HAMBURG, 7 sch., orange, perf., used..	0 14 0
1860	OLDENBURG, ½ gros., brown, used	2 0 0
1855	SWEDEN, 24 sk. Bco., red " ..	..	..	1 15 0
1876	TURKEY, 25 piastres, claret and pink, unused ..	..	..	0 10 6
1888	" 25 " red and yellow ..	..	..	0 9 0
1869	" 25 " unpaid, brown, red-brown border, small perf. 1 5 0	..	..	1 5 0
1870	" 25 " unpaid, brown, dark brown border, large perf. 2 5 0	..	..	2 5 0
1863	CEYLON, 1/- violet, no wmk., used ..	..	..	1 2 6
1885	" 10 cents on 36 blue, unused ..	..	..	1 15 0
1867	STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 6 cents on 2a. orange, used ..	..	..	0 15 0
1867	" 12 " 4d. green " ..	..	..	0 12 6
1869.	GAMBIA, 4d. brown, imperf. No Wmk. " ..	..	..	0 8 6
"	" 6d. blue " ..	..	..	0 7 6
1889.	GOLD COAST, 5/- lilac and blue, postally used ..	..	..	0 6 6
"	" 10/- lilac and carmine " ..	..	..	0 12 6
1894.	" 20/- brown and red " ..	..	..	1 5 0
1877.	NATAL, 4d. brown, C.A., perf. 12½, " ..	..	..	1 2 6
1852.	BARBADOS, 1d. blue on blue paper, unused ..	..	..	0 13 6
"	" 4d. red on blue paper " ..	..	..	1 4 0
1854.	BRITISH HONDURAS, 6d. orange, C.A., used..	3 0 0
"	" 1/- grey, C.A. "	3 10 0

CASH WITH ORDER.

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THE

STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 22.—Vol. I. SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1895. ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. The City of London Philatelic Club. Rochdale Philatelic Society.
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With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."
CONDUCTED BY
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The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.

No. 22.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	177
The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps	178
Philately at Home	178
Reviews	179
City of London Philatelic Club	179
Between Ourselves	180
Louis Levison, Philatelist	181
Philately Abroad	182
Forgers and their Work	183
Rambling on the Continent	184
Answers to Correspondence	184

Philatelic Personalities.

Now that Lord Brassey is Governor of Victoria there is likely to be a boom in matters philatelic in that particular corner of Australia. For Lord Brassey is a philatelist of long standing, some of the gems of his collection having been collected as long ago as the celebrated "Voyage of the Sunbeam," of which Lady Brassey wrote so charmingly.

In the Colonies it is the fashion for everybody "as is anybody" to imitate the Queen's representatives, and many good Victorians who see nothing in stamps now but foolishness will find it the correct thing to get albums and go heart and soul into collecting because His Excellency Lord Brassey does it, don'tcherknow.

It will be news, by the way, to many collectors to know that postal officials in this same colony of Victoria are forbidden to collect stamps. The *Australian Stamp Collector*, speaking possibly in jest, says that the employes of the Post Office are already contemplating an agitation for the removal of this prohibition. And then in a way that is delightfully Irish, the A.S.C. proceeds to add that whether the prohibition is removed or not the postal people will "go on collecting just the same!"

CLIFFORD W. KISSINGER is surely the Jefferson Brick of American Philately. At the age of seventeen, when he had already achieved some notoriety by issuing a post card with his own head in the place where that of Ulysses S. Grant ought to be, Kissinger came into prominence as candidate for the Presidency of the Sons of Philatelia, his rival being Dr. Russell, a man of mature years and tried administrative ability. "Grandpa" Russell, as the Kissingerites dubbed him, won easily, and the petulant Kissinger shook the dust of the S.O.P. council room from his feet and straightway formed the Philatelic Sons of America, with himself as president.

FROM that day to this—a matter of eighteen months or so—Kissinger has never looked back. The "Philatelic Sons of America" numbers nearly 1500 members, mostly youths; and the greatest of these is Kissinger. Under him are some six or seven faithful lieutenants, youths after his own heart, log-rollers every inch. Does Kissinger order this? It is immediately seconded in the philatelic Press by his servile comrades. Does Kissinger wish that? Then "that" must be done, for the great chief Kissinger has spoken.

THE pet ambition at this moment of Clifford W. Kissinger is to become, if you please, Secretary of the American Philatelic Association. In this he will fail, for the A. P. A. membership is made up of the cream of American philatelists—sensible, level-headed men, who will not be blarneyed by this pushing Pennsylvanian stripling. Nevertheless it were well that some courageous scribe out West should expose to the American philatelic public the means by which young Kissinger has been log-rolled into what he probably calls fame. Take up a copy of his own paper, the *Pennsylvania Philatelist*—any issue will do—and there shall you find article after article devoted to panegyrics upon Kissinger, from the pens of the Greenses, the Foxes, the Severns, and the Beardleys of American philatelic—save the mark!—journalism. Nor is this the worst of it. The interesting C. W. K., in the editorial columns of the *Penny*, as he calls it, will puff himself and his works with all the effrontery of an itinerant quack. He recently wrote a "Stamp Collectors' Handbook," did this wonderful Kissinger; and the editorial in the next *Penny* boomed it as "a great book," "a book the collector could not do without," and so on, *ad nauseam*.

WE have some fairly objectionable types in English philately, but thank Heaven we have no Kissingers!

Will you assist us? You can easily do so.

The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps.

(CIRCULAR NO. 2.)

391, Strand, London, W.C.

THE Society having taken into consideration the Stamps mentioned below, pronounce them to be speculative or unnecessary, and appeal to all Dealers and Collectors to discountenance dealing in or collecting the same.

4.—**British Inland Mail, Madagascar.** Through the courtesy of Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., the Society is enabled to publish the following letter:

BRITISH CONSULATE,

TAMATAVE, 18th May, 1895.

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING & CO.
IPSWICH, ENGLAND.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th ultimo, with cheque enclosed.

In reply, I beg to inform you that the "British Inland Mail" now running between Antananarivo and Vatomandry, a port on the south-east coast of this Island, is not an official postal service at all, but a private speculation undertaken by a syndicate of gentlemen residing at Antananarivo, who, in order to facilitate matters, have arranged this mail service, and issued stamps to which your letter refers.

I may also inform you that the Malagasy Government has no postal service at all, and since the departure of the French from the capital, there has not been any communication to and from the coast, save by special couriers or the private mail in question.

Under the circumstances, I have not ventured to make the purchase you required. I have, however, kept the cheque in case you should still want the stamps, but I must state that communication between this and Vatomandry, or any part of Madagascar, is only by sea, and many days and even weeks sometimes elapse before a safe opportunity offers. By the time your reply reaches me I am afraid that the French will be very near Antananarivo, and the "British Inland Mail" will be a thing of the past.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) ANATOLE SAUZIER.

The Society have consequently declared these Stamps to be of a speculative nature.

5.—**Brunei.** Through the courtesy of Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., of Ipswich, the Society is enabled to publish the following letter, and acting thereon, declares the stamps of this country to be wholly speculative.

MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING & CO., LABUAN, SINGAPORE,
IPSWICH, ENGLAND. 30th March, 1895.

Dear Sirs,

Your draft on Singapore for \$101.05 duly to hand, and the stamps shall be sent to you as soon as possible. I have just come back from Brunei, having gone to see the Sultan and Postmaster about your business principally. Let me explain that it was I who suggested to the Sultan that he should issue stamps, and I have arranged the whole thing. He and his Postmaster have no idea of the way to conduct any business. I assure you that the delay in sending the stamps to you is caused by the illness of the Postmaster's wife—at least, one of his wives. In the meantime the Post-office is shut. But I have your money, and I promise to send off the stamps, if it can be done by next mail. I think that in future, should you wish more stamps, you should write to my brother, Mr. R. C. R. [address] and send the money after you have got the stamps. He will send them to you almost immediately, or at any rate he will have them sent to you. But, of course, if you wish to have them direct—that is to say, indirect from Brunei—it is all the same to me, except that there is at least delay in your getting the stamps, and delay in me getting a sale, and on that depends whether or not I lose or gain by the whole venture.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

J. C. R.

6.—**Clipperton Island.** A set of Stamps bearing this name has lately been distributed (anonymously) among the London Dealers; the specimens are obliterated by a hand stamp, with the name of a firm in San Francisco. Clipperton Island is off the Western Coast, and is a part of the United States; so that even if these Stamps are not absolutely illegal and bogus, they are at any rate either speculative or unnecessary, or both. Under these circumstances, the Society warns Dealers and Collectors to beware of them.

7.—**Egypt.** Paragraphs in the press have recently appeared stating that a set of Stamps will be brought out in the Autumn, at some fêtes or celebration festivities which will be held in Egypt. The Society therefore wishes to put all Dealers and Collectors on their guard against an issue which is certainly unnecessary, and perhaps almost as certainly speculative, and to appeal to them to do all they can to prevent, if possible, the issue of these Stamps, or, failing that, to discountenance their sale, distribution, or collection.

In respect to paragraph 3 of the previous Circular, in which it was stated that the newly-issued surcharges for North Borneo and Labuan, of 4, 10, 20, and 30 cents on 1 dollar red, appeared to be unnecessary, the following letter has been received from the North Borneo Company by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. (by whose permission the letter is published) concerning these Stamps, and while in justice to the Company the Society consider it only right to publish it, they nevertheless do not feel called upon to modify the opinion already expressed.

THE BRITISH NORTH BORNEO CO.,
MESSRS. WHITFIELD KING & CO., 15, LEADENHALL STREET,
IPSWICH. LONDON, E.C.,

Dear Sirs,

19th June, 1895.

In reply to your letter of the 15th inst., we beg to say that in consequence of the alteration in the primary rates of postage from North Borneo, approved by the Bureau of the International Postage Union, as following on the decline in the value of the dollar, it was deemed advisable, for the economic purposes of the Borneo Post Office, and for the convenience of the public, to have stamps of the denominations mentioned by you, and a surcharged issue was adopted to save the delay and expense of preparing new dies.

We are not philatelists, and the objection raised against the stamps, which arises apparently from a collector's point of view, is not one that we feel called upon to consider.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) BENJ. T. KINDERSLEY,
Secretary.

By Order,

GORDON SMITH, Secretary. 15th July, 1895.



Philately At Home.



AUDIATUR ET ALTERA PARS.

IT is always well to hear both sides. Messrs. Theodor Buhl & Co., in their magazine, have taken the trouble to attack us on the somewhat sore question of the P.P.A. From time to time various sneering remarks have appeared, but as they have contained no direct reference to ourselves we have ignored them. As, however, in this case the remarks are directed specially against us we can but reply. In a recent leader we controverted some feeble championing of the P.P.A. in the P.F.G.B., and took occasion to state that during the time our publishers have been established (that is, since 1892), we know of nothing of any value having been done by the P.P.A. Messrs. Buhl now ask, in a sneering way: Are Messrs. Harry Hilckes & Co., Limited, and the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY omnipotent, that they should know all that the P.P.A. has done? To this we modestly reply: No.; we do not know all that the P.P.A. has done; but we know all that the P.P.A. has not done. And the mere fact that our challenge (in No. 18 of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY) has not been accepted, and that there has been no attempt made at a reply to any of our charges against the P.P.A. is sufficient proof that every statement we have made with regard to the P.P.A. is irrefutable. We should advise Messrs. Theodor Buhl & Co., to devote their entire energies to their own business, which we feel sure needs all the time and attention they can give to it.

JOINT STOCK PHILATELY.

FROM the latest list of "Public Companies Registered," we extract the following:—

BUHL & CO., LIMITED.—Registered by R. J. Whitty, 10, Old Jewry Chambers, E.C., with a capital of £10,000 in £1 shares.

Object, to enter into an agreement with the London Assets Purchase Association, Limited, and to acquire and carry on the business of stamp merchants as hitherto carried on by Theodor Buhl & Co., at 11, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. The directors are T. A. Buhl, F. J. A. Buhl, and W. A. Slade, Qualification, 100 shares. Remuneration, £100 each per annum.

ONCE MORE THE ENGLISH 1d. RED, PLATE 126.

The *Stamp News* seem to insert anything sent to them without infusing any editorial wisdom. Perhaps it is just as well, but we can hardly understand why they should insert Mr. Gaffe's letter on the above (see "S.C.F.", page 173), without satisfying themselves that the stamp in question is really what it professes to be. Had our contemporary consulted some English Specialist, they would have been informed that plate 126 through some mishap was never even constructed. We wonder how many more copies of this plate will be unearthed.

Reviews.

THE "UNIVERSAL" SERIES OF POSTAGE STAMP ALBUMS.

MESSRS. HARRY HILCKES & Co., Limited, in January last, published in this series, *The Postal and Telegraph Adhesives of Great Britain*, arranged and compiled by Mr. Harry Hilckes.

The design of this Album is distinguished by novelty, both in the contents and in the method of displaying the specimens on the pages.

The former show a full list of all the known varieties which have been brought to light by the investigation of the past fifteen years as well as those known to former collectors. Mr. Hilckes has included not only every stamp issued, but also those registered, which either from non-adoption of the type, change of color before the plate was "put to press" for the public service, or other reasons are to be classed as among the *unattainables*—he has even gone further, and assigned places to all that could by any possibility have existed, and some that there is strong reason to suppose never existed at all except in the officially used sheets.

Thus while a few of those printed for registration purposes, after the one sheet had been selected, were perforated and issued unnoticed with the general stock, as the 9d. pl. 3, bistre, hair-line in the angles, he assumes the existence of others, such as 1/- green, plate 5, (heraldic emblems), and the 5/- rose, plate 4, (cross patée) neither of which has been or is likely to be found. I fear the three pages devoted to these very remarkable stamps will long remain with many gaps and blanks; not even the whole of the rarities of all known collections combined could make the array complete. But the list is suggestive and like the rest of the work, careful and exhaustive, and it stands alone as a record of the exact research of modern times and marks the development of the specialist in the highest degree.

In the brief preface the compiler disclaims and I think wisely, any intention to provide for ivory heads and such like "unnecessary varieties" though in apparent forgetfulness, on the first page the last compartment is marked ivory head,—but that these stamps do show a strong and easily recognised difference is undisputed, and I think the majority of collectors will not be disposed to omit them from their pages.*

Here again, in the form of displaying the contents, this Album is at once novel and excellent: in lieu of the old formal ruled border is a small neatly marked space, regulated by unobtrusive corners which will be invisible when the stamp is mounted. This system is a striking improvement, and differentiates this "Universal Series" from others, which adhere to the old-fashioned cumbersome ruled frames, and in it lies one of the chief merits of Mr. Hilckes' plan.

The general arrangement follows that of Mr. Hilckes' well-known catalogue, and classes all the stamps of the type and value together, instead of in strict chronological sequence like that adapted for the collection in the British Museum.

For purposes of comparative study and of clearly appreciating the various phases of the type in one value this is the only rational plan, though no doubt the purely logical reasons are in favor of a chronological order. Yet anyone who has seen a large collection so arranged, cannot but fail to be struck with the sense of confusion it produces; though probably for the national collection it was inevitable to adopt it in uniformity with the mounting of other countries; but I think for any private collector the collocation of all similar types is far more desirable and even from a philatelic point of view, more scientific. Except Dr. Legrand, I can hardly name any collector of note who has preferred the strict order of date, and the tendency to exact logic of the French mind accounts for this; at any rate, after considerable thought in weighing the "pros" and "cons" I am fully convinced Mr. Hilckes has wisely resolved in grouping the values as this Album shows.

The prominent varieties of obliteration are duly provided for, and the pages not over-crowded, space being left so that each collector can consult his peculiar taste and stamp his originality on his collection according to his judgment.

Why will people persist in calling these the stamps of "Great Britain?" Surely the row marked on page 3, for "Irish" obliterations, was not present to the mind of the compiler when he christened the work. The action of the Irish M.P.'s in obtaining the addition of the words "and Ireland" is proof there is still an effective Union and that this Album ought to be denominated one for the Adhesives of the "United Kingdom." But all our Catalogue makers and publishers and most Philatelists are hardened sinners in this respect, and to introduce a new designation might occasion confusion.

I have thus noticed a few points on which I think remark may be made, and in conclusion on the whole have but unqualified approval to express, and the conviction that this work will really meet the requirements of the specialist, both as a guide in his researches and an asylum for his treasures. The typography (Pardy & Son, Bournemouth), is as neat as it is accurate and the oblong volume of a very presentable and convenient shape. Altogether I heartily congratulate the compiler and the producer, and wish the venture the success it fully deserves.

FRED A. PHILBRICK.

City of London Philatelic Club.

HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, and *The Stamp News*.

From France: *L'annonce Timbrologique*.

From Germany: *Die Post*.

From Portugal: *O Philatelista* (Series III. and Series IV. May, June and July).

From the United States: *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News*, *The Evergreen State Philatelist*, *The American Philatelic Magazine*, and *The Metropolitan Philatelist*.

From India: *The Indian Philatelist*.

The Librarian also thanks the London Philatelic Co. for a copy of their Catalogue of the Stamps of Great Britain, North America, The West Indies, etc.

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings at Cossavella's Restaurant, 121, Cheapside, E.C.

The continuation of "The Secret Marks of the Stamps of Switzerland" had to be held over till next number owing to want of space.—Eds.

*It was certainly very clumsily put in the preface of my Album, that I intended to exclude all ivory heads. What I meant to say was that I did not wish to provide spaces for ivory heads of every variety of the early pennies. (H.H.)

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

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The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JULY 27, 1895.

... Between Ourselves ...

THE formation of the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps has stirred the philatelic world from end to end, but has not everywhere evoked the chorus of praise which was confidently looked for. At home there is no division of opinion on the gumpap question; on the Continent all the leading lights of philately are ardently with us; but in America—well, they are not quite convinced "out thar." The *Evergreen State Philatelist*, for instance, questions the necessity for any such society. Are philatelists a flock of sheep, this journal indignantly asks, that they should collect everything that appears in the catalogue they happen to patronise? Much the same tone is taken by the *Southern Philatelist*, wherein Dr. George N. Campbell—a philatelist worthy of respectful attention—expresses the belief that public opinion will regulate and in time scotch the gumpap evil. "The true collector," Dr. Campbell argues, "does not feel obliged to collect everything offered to him, and as he picks and chooses his stamps the speculative ones will be gradually relegated to their proper place along with the unnecessary surcharge." On these grounds the papers we have mentioned and various others that are of lesser importance adopt an attitude of indifference towards the S.S.S.S. They do not think it will do any harm, but at the same time, they do not anticipate much good from the working of the new Society. Well, so long as their attitude is neutral there is no real harm done; but it seems a pity that so many people have "got hold of the wrong end of the stick," as the saying goes, in regard to the S.S.S.S. No one connected with that body has ever denounced philatelists as a flock of sheep. Philatelists, or the great majority of them, are men of great intelligence, men with some pretension to culture and refinement. It is not to teach the advanced philatelist what to collect and what to leave alone that the S.S.S.S. was formed. The Castles and Ehrenbachs and Averys of to-day know their own business perfectly well. What is intended to be done is to warn the beginners and the collectors of moderate means against the cheap and nasty wares that are daily offered to them. To the young collector we look for the continuance of our hobby's prosperity, for as the years roll on he will—barring accidents—develop into a thorough-going philatelist. But while he is young, and new to the hobby, his interests must be protected—he must be saved from himself, and from his own inclination to invest in the gaudiest stamps, just because they are the cheapest—or he will become disgusted with the whole thing, throw up his collection, and become one of those who sneer at philately. Young collectors, we may inform the *Evergreen State Philatelist*, are a flock of

sheep; for what is offered to them at a price that looks like dirt cheap they will buy, and what one beginner collects another beginner will hanker after. And the object of our new society is to ensure that all these wandering sheep shall be safely herded within the great Philatelic Fold, not only for their own good but also for the future welfare of philately.

If further proof be required of the worthless character of the Portuguese "St. Antoine Commemoration" St. Antoine issue, it is furnished by the following facts.

Farce. The British Consul at Lisbon sent to our office on the 28th of June—that is, at a time when the St. Antoine post cards were still current—certain information written on a 10 reis St. Antoine post-card, which bore, additionally, a stamp of 5 reis, making the whole of the postage paid, 15 reis, or three farthings. This card should have reached this country with a surcharge of ½d.—i.e. double the deficiency of postage—one farthing plus one farthing.



But from a photo appended it will be seen that the surcharge was ½d. And on application to the Secretary of the General Post Office in London, the following more than classical letter was received:

GENERAL POST OFFICE LONDON, 9th July, 1895.

Gentlemen—With reference to your letter of the 2nd inst., on the subject of the special issue of Portuguese post-cards, for use between the 13th and 30th of June, 1895, in commemoration of the 7th centenary of St. Anthony, I have to acquaint you that, according to the information officially supplied to this Office by the International Bureau of the Postal Union, the cards in question were intended for circulation only in Portugal and the Azores.

Indeed, they were not available for international transmission as post-cards in the Postal Union, inasmuch as they exceed the maximum dimensions allowed by the regulations, namely 14 centimetres in length by 9 centimetres in width.*

The treatment of the card which you enclosed as an insufficiently paid letter, was correct; but, as the postage prepaid amounted to 15 reis, the Portuguese postal equivalent of 7½ centimes (½d.), the charge on delivery should have been 3½d., that is double the deficient postage at the letter rate, (1½d.), and not 4½d.

The overcharge of 1d. will be refunded to you.

I am, etc., H. BUXTON FORMAN.

We do not quite know which to admire most—the cool impudence of the Portuguese Government in issuing a post-card which does not conform to the regulations of the Postal Union; or the hardihood of the despatching officer in Lisbon, who treated a paid post-card as an unpaid letter. This almost takes us back to the dark ages of postal administration, when the receiving office charged for the delivery of a letter just as much as they thought the addressee could afford to pay. The post-card being sent by the British Consul, there seems to be little doubt that no other post-cards were at the time available at the Lisbon Post Offices. Again, it may be assumed that the British Consul at Lisbon has used more than one post-card, and it would be interesting to know how the others have fared. Could the farce of speculative issues be carried further? We would suggest to the Portuguese Government that their next speculative effort should be issued at six in the morning and withdrawn from circulation at seven.

* As a matter of fact the card in question measures 14 by 10 cm.

If you want to know how to "make a bit" and help us at the

OUR readers who have borne with us so far in our crusade against the Philatelic Procrastination Association P.P.A. will be interested perhaps in the side-light Changes. thrown upon P.P.A. methods by the correspondence here given. On June 10th, our Mr. Hilckes wrote as follows to Mr. W. Hadlow:—

DEAR SIR,—I have been informed that at a recent meeting of the P.P.A. it was decided that a letter should be sent to all the philatelic papers giving some particulars of work done. Although such a letter has been published in various papers, *no copy of same has been received by my firm!* As the Secretary of the P.P.A. never replies to any letters from this office, I have taken the liberty to send you these lines with the request that you put them before to-night's meeting. In a roundabout way I have been told that all subscribers to the trial of B. and S. received a balance sheet, showing the monies received and expended under this head, and although I was importuned with a begging circular *on the very first day* I opened my office, in December, 1892, no such balance sheet has reached me. Either, therefore, my subscription of £2 2s. was *not* added to the funds of the P.P.A., or it *was* added, and the statement made that a balance sheet was sent is—a mis-statement.

Yours faithfully, HARRY HILCKES.

This was kindly put before the meeting as requested, and a lively discussion ensued, the net result, so far as we are concerned, being the following interesting letter.—

HOLLAND HOUSE, TOTTENHAM.

H. HILCKES, ESQ., LONDON.

18th June, 1895.

DEAR SIR,—I am instructed to communicate to you the following resolution. That the letter addressed to Mr. W. Hadlow by Mr. Hilckes having been read, the Secretary be authorised to acknowledge same and to state that Mr. Hilckes' paper is not on the list of those papers to which the circulars of the Association are sent, further that a copy of the balance sheet mentioned in his letters be sent to him with regret that same was overlooked previously, and that the Secretary has answered all letters received on matters appertaining to the P.P.A. but not personal ones. Yours faithfully, FRED. N. GINN.

We pass over all but the last statement, which is sublimely preposterous. To say that we embodied all our information re forgeries in personal letters to Mr. Ginn is to insult our intelligence. This wriggling out of a difficulty is beautifully characteristic of the P.P.A. as at present constituted.

But it is quite on the cards that a new and more useful P.P.A. will soon be at the service of British philatelists. A little bird whispers strange things into the editorial ear. He tells us that at the last meeting of the Association there were certain strange and unexpected developments; that the old committee retired, giving place to new, and that a certain clique of dealers will henceforth have a little less of their own way in the councils of the P.P.A. Certain other revelations made by this little bird are personal. He even dares to tell us that the P.P.A. loses the valuable services of an official whose efforts have made its name so famous in the annals of philately. But we shall have more to say about this in our next issue.

FRANCE promises to become the happy hunting ground of the forger and the faker and the surcharge-maker.

No Law Against Forgeries. For it seems that in Republican France, which in certain things is more Conservative than Autocratic Russia, one may forge and fake with impunity, provided the stamps you

imitate or experiment upon are those of an obsolete issue. A judge of the French courts has said it. "Oh, wise judge; oh, upright judge!" We should like to plump that judge down in the middle of an assembly of intelligent philatelists, and let him expound his views on the law as to stamp forging. He argues, does this wonderful judge, that the law as to the forging of foreign stamps is intended only to protect foreign countries from loss of revenue. Thus if a stamp be obsolete, and it amuses some gentleman to imitate it, why by all means let him do it! It interests him, and it does not hurt the foreign country. Indeed, so impressed is this good judge with the harmlessness of forging obsolete stamps, that a M. Levy, who is now charged with this very offence, will certainly escape all punishment if he can prove that he has not defrauded the revenue of any foreign country. To defraud the stamp collectors and the stamp dealers of the whole world is apparently nothing in the eyes of this wonderful judge. For the sake of our nearest neighbours we hope that his reading of the law in France is inaccurate.

Louis Levison, Philatelist.

SOME FACTS AND AN INTERVIEW.

(By the "S.C.F.'s" Special Commissioner).

I had the good fortune to run Mr. Levison to earth in Brussels, and of course at once buttonholed him for the benefit of the readers of the "S.C.F."

THE splendid collection of Mr. Louis Levison is well known. It has in a sense been public property for years.



with sincere compliments
Louis Levison

Either it has been sold, or offered, or bid for at least once a month. It is the most talked-about collection of the day. Less is known, however, about the man himself; and his is a personality that invites attention.

Louis Levison is a German-American. He went out to the States at the age of seventeen, and his first hobby was that of amassing a fortune. This pretty scheme accomplished, Mr. Levison returned to Europe, mainly in quest of health, but partly also as a means of seeking some fresh recreation. Carved ivories for a time engaged his attention, and enabled him to spend some of his superfluous dollars; but as time went on these palled, and gave place to rare old oil paintings and other *bric-à-brac*.

It was in 1886, when he had become intimately acquainted with a high official in the employ of the German Government, that he found himself permanently entangled in philately's net. His friend was a stamp collector, and one day, thinking to interest Mr. Levison, showed him his album of stamps. At first, like all who have their attention called to this fad, he was not backward in expressing his ridicule for what he deemed a most childish predilection. Eventually, however, his friend got him interested, and he began a collection on his own account.

Having plenty of means, it was an easy matter to secure the nucleus of a collection. For several years his main object was to fill the spaces in his printed album, but a visit to the Berlin Postal Museum set his desires travelling in a more specific and more interesting direction. Here he saw

for the first time a collection of stamps, all in unused condition, obtained from every stamp-issuing country. Their beautiful appearance so impressed him that he at once determined to build up his collection as nearly like it as possible. From that time on he strove to secure only unused specimens. When these were difficult to obtain, owing to their scarcity, he placed used stamps in his album, replacing them, however, with unused specimens at the first opportunity.

Of the offers made at various times for his grand collection, I shall let Mr. Levison speak himself. But it is significant that a mere section of his stamps has already sold at auction for more than the sum offered for the whole by one of our leading dealers. At New York, on March 27th and following days, Mr. Levison's British North American and United States Stamps sold at remarkably satisfactory figures. Prices of less than £10 were the exception rather than the rule; and the whole sale realized a comfortable £3,000.

"Yes," answered Mr. Levison to the first question I put to him; "I think I can claim that I was one of the first, if not the first of the German collectors to take seriously to the collection of unused stamps. There was great rivalry between myself and Winzer, whose fine collection was recently bought by Stanley Gibbons. Winzer and I were both customers of Larisch, in Munich, and many a time when I wavered about the purchase of a stamp, Larisch would say, 'Well, Mr. Levison, if you don't buy it Mr. Winzer will.' That usually clinched the matter."

"But I have not always confined myself to unused stamps," Mr. Levison added. "For instance, I have an almost complete set of Entire Envelopes and Postal Cards nearly all unused. Russian Rural Stamps are another fad of mine."

"And they are booming just now."

"Well yes. Collectors are beginning to discover that the Russian Rural Stamps have every right to be considered collectable. I have a fine set of them, including all the rare varieties."

"If the question is a fair one, Mr. Levison—you were not a rich man when you first migrated to America?"

"Not by very long chalks. In fact when I landed in the States I was I think without even the proverbial half-dollar. The story of my success is the story of the success of most other men who have made fortunes in America. I found a good opening, I worked hard and stuck to business."

"The banking business, I believe?"

"Yes, banking latterly. I was in the banking business seven years and did remarkably well."

"Now, tell me something of your collection, Mr. Levison. Is there much of it still unsold?"

"Well, I should say there is £3,000 worth still left in my books. My sale in New York, realised £3,000; then I have sold in various ways, another £2,000 worth. So you see, my collection was worth, all told, about £8,000."

"You surprise me! And this was the collection that you offered to several leading dealers, in vain, for £5,000?"

"The very same. Three years ago it was offered all round the trade for £5,000, and, owing I suppose to the tightness of money, nobody would buy. Well, I wasn't going to sell for less; and so I just "sat on" my stamps until this year, and you see how handsomely it has paid me!"

"Yes, indeed. And the remainder of your collection, Mr. Levison—shall you sell that?"

"At once, I think. I am negotiating with various people, but I think one of the London dealers looks like getting it. Speaking of London dealers, it may amuse you to know that one of them valued my collection in New York about £3,000; I only smiled when this was reported to me. Why, as I have told you, the stamps now remaining, after I have sold £5,000 worth are cheap at £3,000."

"One more question," said I, as the great collector began to exhibit signs of "tiredness"; "shall we lose you as a philatelist when all your stamps are dispersed?"

"Well that just depends," he answered with a smile of intense inscrutability. "I have other hobbies to think about—for instance, I have been busily investing in precious stones for a long time past—but I am not tired of philately by any means."

Philately Abroad.

FORGER OF HAYTIAN STAMPS ARRESTED.

UNITED States Secret Service Detectives Owen and Baggs, on June 20th arrested Maximilian Maitret, thirty-five years old, of 235, West Twenty-second Street, New York City, and doing business under the name of the Loyalty Stamp Co.

The secret service men (writes our New York correspondent) have been on the track for several months of a band whose members have been extensively forging the postage stamps of South America and West Indies. The detectives who were assigned to the case discovered that the actual printing was done at No. 36, Frankfort Street, and for three weeks they closely watched the building. On Maitret's arrest they took him to his office, where they unearthed four sets of plates and one woodcut of the Haytian stamps and also a plate for the printing of stamps of British Columbia. The detectives have traced two thousand stamps, which, they say, were manufactured by Maitret.

When arraigned before Sergeant Lane at the police station, Maitret was cool and collected. When the detectives accused him of making the stamps for the purpose of selling them, he said they were not intended for postal use, his object being to mark them as if cancelled and then sell them to stamp collectors. He frankly admitted that he had made the stamps, but when asked if he had forged those of other countries he smiled and said:—"That is for you to discover."

WHEN IS A FORGERY NOT A FORGERY?

A CASE of Foreign postage-stamp forging (writes our special correspondent in Paris) has recently come before the magistrates here, and has been adjourned on somewhat curious grounds. The Public Prosecutor submitted that the whole question was whether in foreign countries stamps were withdrawn from issue, or whether they were always good, as in France, where anybody might prepay a letter with an 1848 stamp. Said the Judge: "I know somebody who is in a position to inform me, and therefore defer judgment for a week." I think I could give the learned judge the information, and so could your newly-formed S.S.S.S.

We have since learned that the dealer's name is Alphonse Levy, and that the judge has ruled that the law as to stamp forgery in France is only intended to protect foreign governments from loss of revenue!—

WHERE NOT TO GO FOR TIENTSIN STAMPS.

We have to thank a Kensington reader for an instructive clipping from the *Peking and Tientsin Times*. Says our Far Eastern contemporary:—

"It will doubtless be of interest to Philatelists here and elsewhere to know that Tientsin is accredited with having its own issue of Local Post Office stamps. A gentleman here has recently been applied to for a complete set with the assurance that he has "seen a type set "facsimile of the stamp in *Stanley Gibbons' Journal*." Though we have no personal interest in the matter it is however our duty, for the benefit of those concerned, to record the fact that *Tientsin so far has not been concerned in the issue of any sort or description of postage stamp.*"

The public, we suppose, will learn in its own good time that the last place in the world to go to for a set of gumpaps or bogus stamps is the country which is supposed to issue them. We go to Newcastle, for our coals, but when it is a case of, say, Nyassaland stamps, who would ever dream of going to Africa?

BEWARE OF THIS FRAUD.

MR. V. JURGI, a resident of St. Pierre, Martinique, warns the public that the unpaid letter stamps of 1887, catalogued with red surcharge "Martinique" have never existed. The stamps offered for sale in America and elsewhere are pure frauds.

MORE GUMPAPS.

GUMPAPISM goes merrily on. According to the *Indian Philatelist*, an insignificant Hill State, near Simla, and calling itself Bissahir, has just treated itself to a set of stamps.

Forgers and their Work.—The Stamps of Guadalajara.

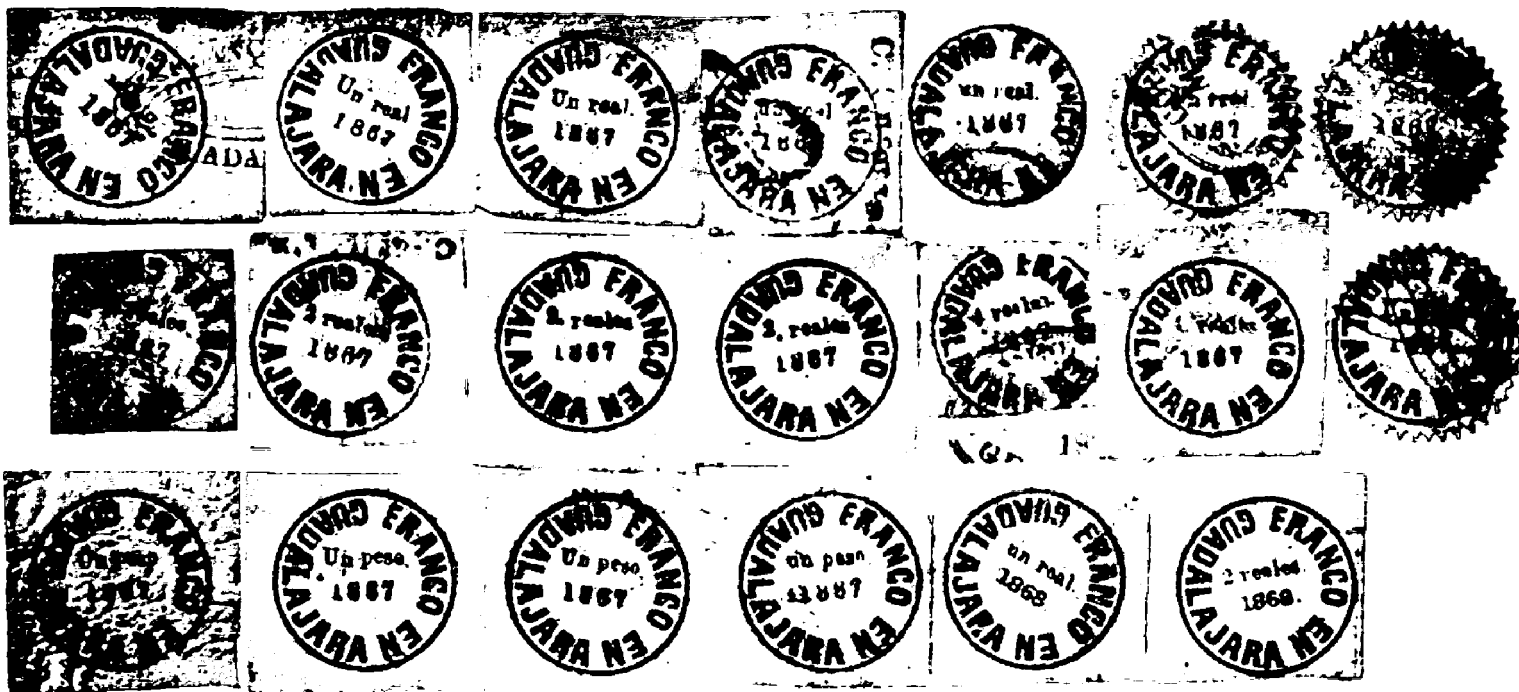
By HARRY HILCKES.

WHO has ever seen a collection, large, small, or medium, which contained the above stamps complete and genuine? With the exception of such specimens as Mr. De Coppet, the renowned American specialist whose Mexican collection was sold last year to Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham; Mr. Köster, of London, and two or three others on the continent, hardly anyone can tell the genuine Guadalajara. The German periodical "Die Post" brought in their May number a very interesting article on these stamps with photograph of forgery and genuine—which the proprietors have kindly lent me for introduction. To those who do not exactly know why these Guadalajara stamps were issued, the following notes will be of interest:—

When the French Army in the years 1866-68, supporting Emperor Maximillion against the revolution of the Native States had to withdraw to the coast, in consequence of the ever-increasing masses under General Juarest, the Counties evacuated by them were left to the mercies of the revolutionary troops who had their head-quarters at Guadalajara. The French left the country in March, 1867, and from this time General Juarest issued the so-called Guadalajara stamps which were not only available in the town of Guadalajara, but in all those districts where General Juarest had authority. They are therefore in every way a true postal issue of Mexico. I suppose it is known that the design itself is simply

the postmark of Guadalajara, with dates and value added and struck on any scrap of paper which happened to be handy; hence the immense variety of the latter. So far the history of the issue. Most forgeries came to Europe in the years of 1875 to 1890 by way of exchange with Mexican collectors. They are mostly circulated through dishonest post officials. It is true that between the years of 1880 to 1881, and also later in the year of 1888, large quantities were imported unused chiefly via New York, but the very low price at once stamped them as being fraudulent in some way, although on comparison with the originals the design, colour, and class of papers always agreed with the genuine stamps, but, and this is the chief point, the types of the value and date do *not* agree with the known originals; it seems therefore more than likely that they are a kind of reprint made by a post official who had access to the old postmarking dies.

In the first place the originals are, without exception, made with a hand stamp, whereas the above-mentioned quotation, "reprints," are produced by lithography. The value of $\frac{1}{2}$ (medio) sometimes appears in the forgery with word of the coin, "real," attached, whereas in the original *this* is the only value where the word real is left out. It seems, therefore, evident that the forger had no genuine copy of the $\frac{1}{2}$ real to work with. I now append three rows of genuine Guadalajara's which, since they are reproduced in excellent style, will be found of great value for comparison.



GENUINE



FORGERIES.

The following are the obliteration marks generally found on these stamps:—

- (a) Two cyphers locked together (see last stamp in second row).
- (b) An oval above the word "Correos," below "Guadalajara," and between these two words leafy ornaments; in the middle the date in three lines (see fifth stamp in second row).
- (c) Oval above "franquedo," below "Guadalajara," without date (see first stamp in first row).
- (d) Two concentric circles with inscription, "franco en c guzman."
- (e) Oval with inscription, "hostoti paquillo."
- (f) Two circles, the inner one consisting of dots with inscription "Correos tepic."

As regards the perforated Guadalajara, of which we show three in the photograph it must be assumed that every stamp has been stanzed out separately, since the perforation is different in almost every specimen. If we, however, consider that in those troubled times post officials had hardly time for such small work, it may be assumed that the perforation of the Guadalajara stamps is only of a private character. So far, however, no official decree has been yet unearthed. I have also added reproduction of the forgeries which are generally printed on a thick firm wove paper and only in single cases on a thin laid paper.

I should think the above photographs, with the explanation given, should be sufficient to guard collectors against these somewhat extensive forgeries, but my remarks are chiefly directed to those dealers who are selling forged Guadalajaras under that name which covers such a multitude of sins, *i.e.*, reprints.

Rambling on the Continent.

By HARRY HILCKES.

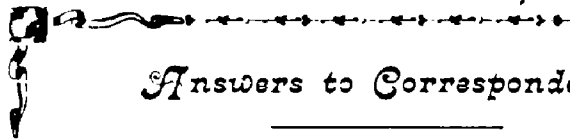
(continued from page 167.)

WHEN speaking about the Berlin Societies I forgot to mention a most important service that they have rendered to Philately in general. On the night of my visit they decided to purchase from Mr. David Kohn of Berlin certain dies and plates relating to old Hanover stamps which Mr. Kohn for years past has used as a means of reprinting those Hanover stamps which are in many cases most difficult to distinguish from the originals. The purchase money was, all things considered, very moderate, which goes to prove that Mr. Kohn at least had a desire to meet the Society, but I must say that he could have well afforded to imitate the example of Monsieur Moens, who presented the Berlin Postal Museum with the plates of the Bergedorf stamps. In any case the action of the Berlin Society should be made public, partly to induce other Societies to do likewise, and partly to show that the Berlin Society, although working very quietly, does royal service for philately.

As everybody in Germany is more or less talking about the Congress at Mannheim, which took place between the 13th and 16th July, I shall give a full report in the next number of the "S.C.F."

The gathering at Mannheim was the most important one of all the Congresses which have as yet taken place, not only in point of numbers of those present but also as far as business was concerned, since it is reputed that between £5000 and £7000 worth of business was done in those three days. From personal observation made I should think the highest figure (£7000) is even much behind the actual figure. As stated before the demand for English Colonial stamps is astonishing and the supply most insignificant. Another most curious feature struck me, that a large number of German collectors go in for collecting English plate numbers and there are certainly quite as many collectors of English in Germany as in this country. It was most gratifying to me to find that the many readers we have in Germany very carefully scan the columns of the "S. C. F." and it is mainly to their recommendation to their friends that we add so largely to our subscription list. The S.S.S.S. was very much discussed and as will be seen from my special report on the Congress, a special committee has been appointed to work hand in hand with the English Committee. There is no doubt whatever that the death knell of speculative issues has been

sounded and the financial fiascos of the bogie issues of Portugal and other small States will be repeated as often as such rubbish is thrown on the market. A little bird whispered to me in Mannheim that great changes had taken place at the last meeting of the P.P.A.; that a new Committee has been formed and that matters will be now taken in hand in a more satisfactory manner than hitherto. This news is almost too good to be true, but no doubt on my return I shall be able to verify same, and if true, a most important step has been taken.



Answers to Correspondents.

* * * We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

C.H. (Rock Ferry).—Your addition to the postmarks of Colonial Offices noted with thanks. The new edition of the English Catalogue will contain a complete list of all English postmarks; you will then be able to sort your stamps. So far the list published by us in the "S.C.F." contains all postmarks used abroad.

E.G.F. (Anerley).—No statistics are available as regards the actual number of stamps printed of the present Brazilian issue. Your suggestion re English Catalogue is a good one, and we will see what can be done.

G.H.M. (Barnstaple).—B60 is the Bournemouth Postmark.

P.R.G. (Plaistow).—You saw your attempt at philatelic poetry duly appreciated in our last number. We were well pleased with same.

H. (Carmarthen).—Thanks for 3/3, one year's subscription. We are very sorry to hear that your newly assumed character, as Benedict, prevented you from fulfilling your duties as a subscriber to the "S.C.F." We sincerely endorse your hope that no more honeymoons will interfere with your duties to the "S.C.F."

A.J.P. (Ramsay).—As to your first question we should like to see the stamps. Your second question, how to successfully photograph stamps is a very difficult one to answer.—In the first place you do not state for what purpose you wish the photograph.—There is little difference in the actual taking of a stamp and any other small object. It would, however, be quite impossible to go into technical details in this column. A visit to your local photographer would at once settle any difficulty you may encounter in your operations.

L.D. (Halifax).—The stamps issued by the British Consul at Antananarivo (Madagascar) prepaid postage to Mauritius or Reunion. They were only gummed at one corner and on arrival at either of the two ports mentioned, replaced by the stamps of Mauritius or Reunion, the labels being returned to the British Consul as Vouchers. You will find them catalogued in "Our Catalogue," page 346.—(post free, 2/3).

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Our Advertisement Rates are the highest in this country; but so is our circulation.



THE STAMP

COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY.

AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1895.

Auction Sales of Stamps.

Class a—Superb condition, if unused with gum, (mint state), if used, perfect specimens, fine colour, lightly post-marked.

Class b—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, may be without gum, but specimens must be without any defect.

Class c—Only rare stamps with slight defects, heavy post marks, off colour, a small tear, will be mentioned under this heading.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked *

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
	(continued from page 29.)	
	Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co.'s Sale, June 19th, 1895.—continued.	
b	Nevis, 6d. on grayish	£1 9s and 1 10 0
a	1/- green on grayish	1 16 0
a	ditto, perf. 15	1 12 0
a	1/- yellow-green, perf. 15	3 18 0
c	Newfoundland, 2d. orange-red *	1 16 0
c	6d. orange red	1 16 0
b	5c. (seal), brown *	1 6 0
a	another, used	1 0 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 3d.	1 0 0
c	New Zealand, 1d. on blue, pair	2 16 0
a	ditto, a single	2 6 0
c	1d. pelure, perfs. on one side	1 14 0
a	1/- blue-green, thick paper	1 1 0
c	Nova Scotia, 1d. brown *	1 6 0
c	1/- purple, no margins	9 15 0
a	8½c. green	1 7 0
a	Queensland, 3d. brown, large star *	0 19 0
a	St. Christopher, 1/- lilac, C.A.	1 5 0
c	St. Lucia, green, star wmk.	1 6 0
a	4d. black and yellow, perf. 12, pair	0 15 0
a	St. Vincent, first issue, 4d. yellow *	3 10 0
a	Another, used	2 6 0
a	ditto, 1/- brown	1 1 0
b	4d. dark blue, star *	6 10 0
a	ditto, 2 unused copies	1 16 0
b	4d. ultramarine, star *	2 12 0
c	South Australia, 1d. green, imperf. pair	1 10 0
a	1d. yellow-green, perf. and roulette *	1 5 0
b	3d. red on blue	1 2 0
b	Tasmania, 2d. green, star *	2 8 0
c	Tobago, 6d. ochre, C.C.	2 4 0
a	Turks Island, 2½d. on 1/- prune *	3 17 6
c	1/- prune, no perfs. left side	10 10 0
b	Tuscany, 2 soldi, red	5 0 0
c	United States (1869), 90c.	£1 5s and 1 9 0
c	Victoria, 4d. rose, beaded oval, no wmk. *	0 19 0
b	£2 blue, pair	0 10 0
b	Western Australia, 6d. bronze	£2 18s and 3 3 0
c	ditto, roulettes showing two sides	2 15 0
b	Second issue, 2d. vermilion, block of 9 *	3 5 0
b	ditto, 4d. blue, similar block	5 15 0
c	ditto, 6d. green, roulette	1 10 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
a	Wurtemberg, first issue, 18kr. (and 3 common ones) on piece of original	1 6 0
	The London Philatelic Company's Sale, June 21, 1895.	
b	Alsace Lorraine, 20c. blue, net inverted	0 7 0
a	Antigua, 1/- mauve *	1 4 0
a	Bahamas, 1d., no wmk., small rough perf. *	1 1 0
b	Barbados, 5/- rose	1 12 0
b	British Guiana (1860), 1c. rose	1 6 0
a	British Honduras, 6d. rose, C.C., perf. 12½ *	1 2 0
c	Canada, 7½d. green, cut close	1 2 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- emerald (triangular)	1 1 0
a	Ceylon, 5d. red-brown, C.C.	1 0 0
a	Colombia (1886), 5 pesos brown, 2 * copies.. ..	0 18 0
a	Dominica, 1/- purple, C.A. *	2 17 6
a	Gibraltar, first issue, 6d. lilac *	0 13 0
a	ditto, 1/- brown *	1 18 0
a & b	Great Britain, 1d. black, made-up plate of 240	2 6 0
c	2d. blue, no lines *	1 1 0
b	ditto, perf. 14, large crown, vertical pair *	3 10 0
a	ditto, plate 15, block of 24 *	1 1 0
c	6d. violet, octag. *	2 12 6
b	2/- red-brown, heavy postmark	1 3 0
b	5/- rose, plate 2 *	1 0 0
b	16/- grey-green, anchor	0 16 0
a	£1, brown-violet, Maltese cross	£1 and 1 1 0
a	ditto, three crowns *	2 12 6
a	£5 orange	2 4 0
c	Another, heavy pmk.	1 6 0
c	Guinea, first issue, small surch., 25r. rose	4 0 0
a	Madeira, 240r. violet, value in curve	0 16 0
b	Nevis, 1/- green, perf. 13	1 18 0
a	1/- mauve *	2 4 0
b	New Brunswick, 3d. red on original	0 15 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange-vermilion	1 7 0
b	6d. orange	1 1 0
a	ditto, orange-vermilion	3 3 0
b	8d. carmine-vermilion *	1 0 0
b	2d. lake *	1 1 0
a	6d. ditto, 2 used copies	1 0 0
b	1/- ditto	1 3 0
b	5c. brown, seal *	1 1 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 3d. green	1 5 0
c	ditto, ditto on laid	1 1 0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown	1 7 0
a	8½c. green	1 10 0
a	ditto *	1 1 0
a	8½c. deep green *	1 9 0
b	Peru (1883), 1 sol. yellow-brown, provisional	0 16 0
b	Prince Edward Island, 3d. blue, perf. 9, *	1 0 0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. sepia, *	2 10 0
a	St. Vincent, first issue, 4d. yellow, *	3 5 0
b	do. do.,	£1 18s. od. and 2 8 0
b	do., 1/- blue	1 0 0
a	4d. blue, star	1 10 0
b	South Australia, 1/- orange, imperf.	1 0 0
a	16 Straits Settlements, 2c. brown, C.A., strip of 5 *	0 14 0
b	Tollma, 5c. on blue, vertically laid	1 2 0
b	ditto, horizontally laid	1 2 0
b	United States (1869), 24c.	15s and 0 17 0
b	ditto, 90c.	1 18 0
b	Virgin Islands, 1d. green, first type, imperf. *	1 6 0
a	4d. brick-red, C.A.	0 19 0
b	Wurtemberg, 18kr., black on lilac	0 15 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
<i>Mr. W. HADLOW'S Saturday Sales, May 25th—June 22nd, 1895.</i>		
a	Italy, first issue, 20c. blue, 4 * copies	1 8 0
a	third issue, 40c. red, pair	0 15 0
a	New Zealand, 1d. brown, no wmk. pair *	1 6 0
c	Parma, provisional, 5c. orange * but ink marked	1 16 0
b	ditto, 15c. red *	0 10 0
b	Peru (1873), 2c. blue (llama), 2 copies	1 0 0
b	Portugal, first issue, 5r. brown, 3 copies *	1 5 0
b	Queensland, ½d. on 1d., 4 * and a "specimen"	3 2 0
b & c	ditto, 5 * ..	2 16 0
b	Sandwich Islands (1853), 5c. deep blue, thick paper	0 18 0
c	ditto, 13c. vermilion, pair *	0 12 0
b	Tolima, first issue, 5c. on white wove *	0 18 0
b	ditto, 5c. on blue laid * ..	1 0 0

Mr. W. HADLOW, June 27, 1895.

a	Antigua, 6d. green, imperf.	1 18 0
a	British South Africa, 4/- on 5/- *	0 18 0
b	£1 blue *	0 15 0
a	Another *	1 1 0
b	£2 rose *	1 15 0
a	Another *	2 4 0
a	£5 olive-green *	£3 15s. and 4 0 0
a	£10 brown *, 2 copies each	7 0 0
a	Great Britain, 3d., plate 4, four flowers, pair *	0 10 0
a	3d., plate 11, spray, block of 6 *	1 2 0
a	4d. green, plate 16, block of 6 *	1 3 0
a	6d. brown, plate 11, pair *	1 2 0
a	6d., plate 15, block of 4 *	1 2 0
a	6d., plate 17, spray, block of 4 *	1 14 0
a	ditto, pair *	0 19 0
a	8d. orange, block of 4 *	1 8 0
b	10d. octagonal *	2 12 6
a	1/-, plate 5 *	0 11 0
b	2/- red-brown ..	1 6 0
c	Another ..	0 15 0
a	5/-, plate 1 *	1 14 0
b	Another ..	1 0 0
c	5/-, plate 2 *	0 18 0
a	£5 orange, 6 copies each	2 10 0
a	India, ½a. red, part of margin *	9 0 0
a	Service, ½a. lilac, vert. pair *	0 19 0
a	ditto, short in black on 2as., pair *	2 4 0
a & b	ditto, green surcharge, pair *	2 4 0
a	ditto, large type, on 6a. 8p. ..	4 5 0
a	½a. blue, imperf. pair wmk. *	0 12 0
a	2a. yellow, ditto, ditto, ditto ..	0 12 0
a	Mexico, Guadalajara (1868), 1r., pointed perfs. *	0 15 0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. scarlet-vermilion *	1 6 0
c	New Zealand, 1d. vermilion, pelure, perf. ..	3 15 0
b	Queensland (1879), 2d. blue, burélé ..	0 10 0
a	St. Christopher, 1d. rose, perf. 12½, sideways wmk. pair ..	0 12 0
b	South Australia, 1d. dark green, imperf. pair	1 12 0
c	9d. roulette *	0 10 0
c	Trinidad, 5/-, perf. 12½ *	0 15 0
a	United States, Columbus, 1 dollar, 2 copies each	0 14 0
a	Victoria, first issue, 1d. deep red-brown *	1 12 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., July 1, 1895.

b	Antigua, 1/- mauve ..	£1 7s and 1 8 0
a	Barbados, 5/- lake ..	1 16 0
a	British Columbia, 25c. perf. 12½ *	3 2 0
a	Another, used ..	1 7 0
b	British Guiana (1853), 1c. red ..	1 6 0
b	(1860), 1c. rose ..	0 18 0
b	Canada, 6d. lilac ..	0 19 0
b	10d. blue ..	£1 os. od. and 1 1 0
a	Cape, woodblock 1d. small margins	3 7 6
b	Ceylon, 9d. imperf. ..	2 6 0
b	1/- cold violet, no wmk. ..	0 17 0
b & c	5d. brown C.C., pair on entire ..	1 18 0
b	Dominica, 1/- violet, perf. 14, C.C. ..	0 16 0
b	France, Empire, 1 franc ..	0 15 0
b	Great Britain, 1d. red-brown, imperf., large crown *	1 16 0
a	3d. rose, plate 18, block of 16 *	3 15 0
a	4d. sage-green, plate 15, block of 20 *	4 4 0
c	Hamburg, 7sch. orange, perf. ..	0 10 0
b	Hongkong, 4c. slate, perf. 12½ ..	0 6 0
c	96c. yellow-brown, thinned ..	0 16 0
b	India, Service, 2as. lilac and green ..	1 18 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
b	Mauritius, Gceek border, 1d. red, small margins	2 0 0
a	6d. green, no wmk, imperf, strip of 3 *	1 2 0
a	1/- buff ditto ditto pair *	0 14 0
b	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, C.C. *	1 10 0
b	4d. blue, CA. ..	4 10 0
c	ditto tear ..	2 2 0
a	4d. blue, C.C. 9 copies ..	3 1 0
a	4d. mauve, 16 copies ..	2 12 0
b	Naples, ½ tornese blue, arms ..	12 0 0
a	ditto cross ..	4 5 0
b	Nevis, first issue, 4d. rose on bluish, *	4 15 0
c	ditto, ditto, on grey ..	1 10 0
b	ditto, 6d. on bluish ..	3 0 0
b	ditto, ditto, on grey, ..	£1 14s. od. and 2 0 0
b	ditto, 1/- on grey, ..	£1 14s. od. and 1 16 0
b	4d. orange, engraved, * ..	1 4 0
b	ditto, used, 15s. od., and ..	1 2 0
a	1/- blue-green, perf. 15 ..	1 16 0
b	1/- yellow-green, ditto ..	4 4 0
b	6d. green, * but no gum ..	8 5 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange-vermilion, *	1 10 0
b	ditto, inkmark ..	1 5 0
a	6½d. carmine-vermilion, no margins, *	6 6 0
b	8d. do, * ..	1 2 0
b	5c. brown, * ..	1 4 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney 2d., plate 2	1 5 0
b	ditto, 3d. ..	1 5 0
b & c	diadem, 1/- red, imperf. pair ..	1 1 0
b	New Zealand, 1d. on blue ..	1 5 0
b	4d. orange, no wmk. * ..	1 0 0
c	1/- blue-green, no wmk., fine serrations ..	2 2 0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. brown ..	1 5 0
a	6d. light green, small margins ..	1 6 0
a	6d. dark green, ditto ..	1 6 0
a	1/- prune, Reserve £25, not sold at auction but sold afterwards for ..	25 0 0
a	Oldenburg, first issue, ½sgr. green ..	1 8 0
a	second issue, 3gr., with broken figure *	1 4 0
b	third issue, ½gr., brown ..	0 17 0
b	Portuguese Indies, 6oor., star above, thin bluish paper *	0 12 0
a	Queensland, 1d. star * ..	0 15 0
a	3d. brown, large star * ..	0 16 0
b	6d. green, ditto, ditto ..	0 15 0
a	St. Christopher, 1/- lilac, CA. ..	1 6 0
a	St. Helena, 1d- imperf., pair *	1 1 0
a	St. Lucia, first issue, lake, pair *	1 3 0
c	St. Vincent, first issue, 4d. yellow ..	1 1 0
b	ditto, 1/- brown * but no gum ..	4 5 0
a	ditto, ditto, used ..	1 4 0
b	6d. yellow-green, star * ..	2 0 0
b	South Australia, 3d. red on blue ..	1 1 0
c	9d. grey, roulettes and perforations ..	1 12 0
a	Straits Settlements, 2c. brown, CA., pair *	0 7 0
c	Tasmania, 2d. green, imperf., no wmk. ..	0 12 0
a	Tobago, 2½d. on 4d. grey, block of 4 *	0 12 0
a	6d. ochre, CA. ..	12 0 0
c	Trinidad, 1/- blue-black, imperf. ..	1 10 0
b	1/- indigo, perf. 11½ ..	0 15 0
a	Turks Islands, ½d. on 1/- prune, uncatalogued type *	3 0 0
a	4d. on 6d. black ..	0 18 0
b	United States (1855), 30c. orange ..	0 15 0
b	(1861), 5c. mustard ..	1 0 0
a	ditto, 90c. blue, with grill ..	1 10 0
b	Another, badly centred ..	1 3 0
b	(1869) 15c., no grill (1875 reprint) *	1 10 0
b	ditto, 24c., 7 copies 15/- to 20/-, averaging ..	0 16 6
b	ditto, 90c., 2 copies, 34/- each, and 2 copies each	1 18 0
b	Columbus, 1 dollar * ..	0 15 0
b	ditto, ditto, used ..	0 12 0
b	Victoria, 6d. orange, first type, on piece of original	0 11 0
b	Virgin Islands, 1d. green, C.C. sideways * ..	0 12 0
b	6d. rose, perf. 12 * ..	1 5 0
a	ditto, perf. 15 * ..	5 10 0
c	1/- carmine, thin border ..	2 12 6
c	Western Australia, 2d. red-brown, vert. pair	3 3 0
b	6d. bronze ..	2 0 0
c	Wurtemberg, 18kr. blue, silk thread ..	0 16 0
c	18kr. orange, roulette ..	0 14 0

Doings of Societies.

- LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- SCARBOROUGH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.
- ROCHDALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- NORTHAMPTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- EDINBURGH AND LEITH SOCIETY.
- SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
- OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

No reports to hand on going to press.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

MEETING held at the residence of Dr. Hitch, Perth, Monday evening, June 10th, Mr. Clifton in the chair. Miss Kelsall, Messrs. Domela, Wade, Hitch, Avery, Salmon and Levine. Minutes of the previous meeting read and confirmed. Mr. Salmon was elected a member. Correspondence was received from Italy and Spain. Mr. Domela showed the 2d. chocolate roulette, fine specimen on piece of the original, dated Feb. 7th, Perth, 1860; also a block of 10 1d. black large margins and in perfect condition. Mr. Stables showed two blocks, one of 4 and one of 6, 1d. straw, 12 x 4. Mr. Levine exhibited first issue surcharged on 1/2 anna blue, India. Several collections were shown, and sheets from Mr. Hagan, of Sydney and Messrs. Callf, of Sussex were shown. A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated a very enjoyable evening.

ALF. J. LEVINE, *Hon. Sec.*

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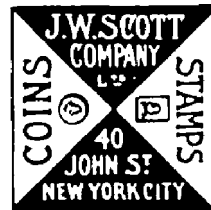
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1/4 as green	"	10 0 0
2/4 as red	"	20 0 0
1/4 as Entire Envelope	"	4 0 0
1/4 as Post cards	"	2 5 0

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FIRST & LARGEST STAMP DEALER IN THE UNITED STATES.

Price List on Receipt of P.C. [16]

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[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 2d. for every six words. — Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

GIBBONS' NEW CATALOGUE, 36. unused 5d. Turks Island included. 5 lots, 15/-; 14 lots £2. Prepaid—HOMWOOD, Chichester. [14]

EXCHANGE SOCIETY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS. THE LARGEST AND BEST STAMP EXCHANGE in existence, conducted on RULES OF EXCHANGE (PURE AND SIMPLE). Subscription, 10/- per annum. Nearly 200 Members. Full particulars, and all information necessary for New Members, will be sent free on application to The Secretary, Mr. C. FORBES, Hon. Librarian, City of London Philatelic Club, 42, Strahan Road, London, E. Foreign correspondence desired with Dealers and Collectors. [5]

66 Genuine used United States given away free to all genuine collectors applying for approval sheets and sending 1d. Stamp for Postage.—E. Wood, 9 Hoxton Street, London, N.

ENGLISH, 1843. Maltese Cross, Nos. 1 to 12, 5/3; Ivory Heads, 6d each; reds, blue postmark, 2/-; Envelopes, pointed flaps, silk thread, 7/- doz.; 100 Fiscals (no English), all different, 3/- —SANTOS STAMP Co., 35, Alwyne Villas, Canonbury.

CHEAP English Penny Red. Plate Numbers unassorted, 1/3 per 1000; 10,000 7/6; Imperforate, 3/6 per 1000. Perf 16, Small Crown, 3/6 per 100; 2d. Blue, plate numbers, 3/- per 100. Penny Red, Imperforate complete plate, 6/- contain only picked copies. Small Half penny, Lake—1870, 3/- per 100.—C. NISSEY, 279, Brunswick Buildings, Aldgate, E.

CYCLISTS.—Advertiser would be glad to hear from Collectors to form Exchange Club, to meet on S.W. Roads. Send address for particulars.—STOKES, 73, Lindore Road, Battersea Rise. [3]

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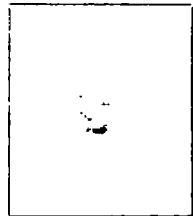
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		£	s.	d.
1855	BREMEN, 3 imperf., unused..	0 12 6
1866	" 3 perf., "	0 15 0
1852	BRUNSWICK, 1 sgr., pink, used	0 15 0
"	" 2 " blue " ..	..	..	0 10 6
"	" 3 " vermilion, used ..	..	..	0 12 6
1875	BELGIUM, 5 francs, brown ..	..	..	1 5 0
1861	HAMBURG, 7 sch., orange, perf., used..	..	..	0 14 0
1860	OLDENBURG, ½ gros., brown, used ..	..	..	2 0 0
1855	SWEDEN, 24 sk. Bco., red ..	..	..	1 15 0
1876	TURKEY, 25 piastres, claret and pink, unused ..	..	..	0 10 6
1888	" 25 " red and yellow ..	..	..	0 9 0
1869	" 25 " unpaid, brown, red-brown border, small perf. 1 5 0	..	..	..
1870	" 25 " unpaid, brown, dark brown border, large perf. 2 5 0	..	..	..
1863	CEYLON, 1/- violet, no wmk., used ..	..	..	1 2 6
1885	" 10 cents on 36 blue, unused ..	..	..	1 15 0
1867	STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, 6 cents on 2a. orange, used ..	..	..	0 15 0
1867	" 12 " 4a. green " ..	..	..	0 12 6
1869.	GAMBIA, 4d. brown, imperf. No Wmk. " ..	..	..	0 8 6
"	" 6d. blue " " ..	..	..	0 7 6
1889.	GOLD COAST, 5/- lilac and blue, postally used ..	..	..	0 6 6
"	" 10/- lilac and carmine " " ..	..	..	0 12 6
1894.	" 20/- brown and red " " ..	..	..	1 5 0
1877.	NATAL, 4d. brown, C.A., perf. 12½, " " ..	..	..	1 2 6
1852.	BARBADOS, 1d. blue on blue paper, unused ..	..	..	0 13 6
"	" 4d. red on blue paper " "	1 4 0
1884.	BRITISH HONDURAS, 6d. orange, C.A., used..	3 0 0
"	" 1/- grey, C.A. "	3 10 0

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THE

STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 23.—Vol. I.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1895.
ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies:

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. The City of London Philatelic Club. Rochdale Philatelic Society.
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Sheffield Philatelic Society.

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OLDENBURG, 1852, ½sgr. green, unused	2	0	0
.. 1859, ½gr.	0	18	0
.. 1859, 3gr. yellow	4	4	0
.. 1861, ½gr. orange yellow, unused	0	17	6
.. ½gr. brown	2	10	0
.. 1gr. milky blue, rare shade, unused	2	10	0
.. 3gr. yellow, error 8, unused	20	0	0
HANOVER, 10gr. green, used	2	10	0
NAPLES, 50 grano, used	2	10	0
TUSCANY, 6ocr. red-brown used	10	10	0
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 1857, 5c. brown, with projection, unused	2	0	0
CONFEDERATE STATES, "Ten" cents, blue, unused	1	0	0
CANADA, 6d. purple, imperf., used	0	14	6
.. 7½d. green,	2	5	0
.. 10d. blue,	1	2	6
NEWFOUNDLAND, 6d. orange-vermillion, used (very fine)	2	10	0
.. 1 - (very lightly)	17	10	0
NOVA SCOTIA, 6d. green, used	0	17	6
.. 1 - mauve, used (superb copy)	20	0	0
TRINIDAD, 1d. blue (fine litho.) used	3	0	0
NEVIS, complete set on grey paper, 1d., 4d., 6d. and 1 - (superb condition, unused)	10	0	0
BAHAMAS, 4d., no wmk., unused	1	5	0
BEUNOS AYRES, Dos Pesos, unused, blue	3	0	0
.. Cuato Pesos, unused, brown	3	5	0
BRITISH GUIANA, 1850, 1c. magenta, unused, with gum	30	0	0
NATAL, 6d. green, used, large size	4	0	0
NEW SOUTH WALES, 2d. laureated, unused	4	0	0
SANDWICH ISLANDS, 1c. (Inter Island) on bluish, unused	3	0	0
.. 1853, 5c., used, on thick white paper	5	0	0
.. 5c. .. on thin bluish paper.. .. .	1	10	0
.. 13c. .. vermillion, on thick white paper (this stamp is slightly damaged)	2	10	0

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FOURTH SALE.—A magnificent collection of the Stamps of Great Britain, practically complete.

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64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

CONDUCTED BY
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 The Liverpool Philatello Society. | The City of London Philatello Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatello Society.
 The Edinburgh Philatello Society. | Rochdale Philatello Society. | Sheffield Philatello Society.

No. 23.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	185
The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps ..	186
The Truth About Seebecks.. .. .	186
Philately at Home	186
City of London Philatello Club	187
Between Ourselves	188
Strange Case of Tomasso Coelho.. .. .	189
Seventh German Philatelic Congress	190
Tit-Bits from Abroad	191
Our Forum	191
Answers to Correspondents	192

Philatelic Personalities.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF NORFOLK, Premier Duke, Hereditary Earl Marshal, and goodness knows what else, is, to the general surprise, pitchforked into the important office of Postmaster-General. Whether there is any truth in the current suggestion that this was a move on Lord Salisbury's part to catch Catholic votes we do not know; but, in any case, it seems a pity that the conduct of a great public department should be conferred in such a whimsical way. "The Duke of Norfolk is an able and hard-working man," say the quidnuncs of the Press, who probably know as much about His Grace's ability and industry as the gamin who sells matches in Cheapside; and the *London Philatelist*, we regret to see, repeats the statement with embellishments. If the Hereditary-Earl Marshal of England is remarkable for any one thing, that thing is his armour-plated, bullet proof Conservatism; and the man who imagines that Her Majesty's new Postmaster-General will introduce reforms or improve the postal service in any way is, in the language of the Cheapside gamin, aforesaid, "running past himself."

"Now that the Mekeels have shut up their *P. J. of A.* (writes an American correspondent) the *Eastern Philatelist* can claim the distinction of being the oldest existing monthly stamp paper in the States. Mr. F. H. Pinkham, its editor and proprietor, is one of the old-time dealers and a man of wide and varied experience. He enjoys also the unique distinction of being popular with everyone. Of 'the gentle

art of making enemies' he appears to be as innocent as an unborn babe."

PHILIPPE FONTETE is dead. *De mortuis nil nisi bonum.* To the present-day philatelist Fontete was either known unfavourably or not at all; but older hands will recall the man's better qualities. Meanwhile, Mr. E. H. Tate, of 26, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C., announces in the *General Anzeiger*, that persons having claims against the deceased's estate must write to the address mentioned not later than September 15th.

OF MR. WILLARD C. VAN DERLIP, of Boston, Mass., we have not been hearing quite so much lately. He is a philatelist of long standing who preceded Mr. Tiffany in the presidential chair of the American Philatelic Association. And, like Mr. Tiffany, he is a lawyer by profession.

IN MR. VAN DERLIP'S native city, stamps are enjoying a phenomenal boom, of which the outward and visible sign is the almost simultaneous issue of two new papers, the *Bay State Philatelist* and the *Boston Stamp Book*, both journals worthy of a city that claims the monopoly of up-to-dateness and "colchaw." The latest scheme in philatelic Boston is a stamp bourse. It is quite on the cards that the Boston Philatelic Society, of which Mr. Van Derlip is the President, will take the Great Elks Hall in that city as a permanent meeting place; and if this be done, the building may be devoted in the daytime to the purposes of a philatelic rialto, whereon the bulls and bears of the hobby may gore one another to their heart's content.

PHILATELIC thieves appear to make a dead set at Mr. David Field, of Williams, Field & Co., Booksellers' Row, W.C. Mr. Field, as will be seen from a paragraph elsewhere, has again been robbed, this time of a rare Naples stamp.

MR. ALVAH DAVISON, who is contesting the Presidency of the American Philatelic Association with Mr. John K. Tiffany, is one of the most popular of Philatelic New Yorkers. He writes extensively on philatelic matters in several of the American magazines. For a number of years he edited Mr. Gremmel's lively paper, the *Post Office*, establishing the reputation that journal still possesses for smartness, and punctuality, and sound philatelic wisdom. The A.P.A. Convention at Clapton, N.Y., is doubtless a thing of the past by now, and the reports of its deliberations will soon be with us. We shall not be surprised to read of the victory of Mr. Davison.

Will you assist us? You can easily do so.

Through a clerical error the advance proof of the second circular of the S.S.S.S. was inserted instead of the revised. It should have read as follows:—

PLEASE GIVE THIS THE WIDEST PUBLICATION.

The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps.

(CIRCULAR No. 2.)

391, Strand, London, W.C.

THE Society, in conjunction with the Special Committee appointed by the London Philatelic Society, having taken into consideration the Stamps mentioned below, are of opinion that they are not worth the attention of Philatelists, and appeal to all Collectors and Dealers to discountenance dealing in or collecting the same.

4.—British Inland Mail, Madagascar.

5.—Brunei.

6.—Clipperton Islands.

Same as published in last number.

7.—Egypt. Paragraphs in the press have recently appeared stating that a set of Stamps will be brought out in the Autumn, in connection with some fêtes or celebration festivities which will be held in Egypt. Collectors and Dealers are therefore put on their guard against an issue which would appear to be "unnecessary."

8.—Bussahir. A set of Stamps, bearing this name, has recently been issued. The country appears to be a native state in the Northern part of India, governed by Rajah, of Rajpoot origin. It is a very mountainous region, having an area of about 3000 square miles, and peopled by a race not very highly civilized. Whether these Stamps have been issued by the native government (which appears unlikely, considering the nature of the country), or not, Collectors and Dealers are advised not to purchase until further information has been obtained.

9.—North Borneo and Labuan. Same as published.

GORDON SMITH, *Secretary S.S.S.S.*

HERBERT R. OLDFIELD,

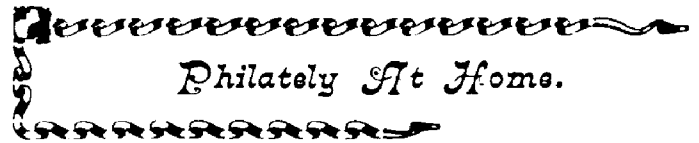
Secretary to the Special Committee, London Philatelic Society.
25th July, 1895.

The Truth about Seebecks.

MR. SEEBECK AND THE PHILATELIC PRESS.

IN an interview with Mr. G. B. Calman, published under the above head line in No. 21 of the FORTNIGHTLY, we inadvertently placed a slightly wrong construction upon what fell from the lips of the interviewee. It was not Mr. Calman's intention to imply that he would pay £1000 down to get out of his contract with Mr. Seebeck, but that he would willingly pay £1000 if the contract between Mr. Seebeck, and the various South American Governments were brought to an end at once. There is a distinction here, but it is one so fine that it makes no real difference to the tenor of Mr. Calman's remarks, which will be fresh in the memory of every reader. If there be any who did not read our Calman interview, let them turn back and rectify the omission at once, for in view of the increasing importance of the Seebeck question, the statements contained in the article are of the utmost interest.

Since the date of the interview in question, Mr. Calman (who was then leaving for his home in New York) has had a long talk with Mr. Seebeck himself with regard to these stamps, and we are permitted to state that within a few days the philatelic Press will receive a communication from the President of the Hamilton Bank Note Company which will, in Mr. Calman's opinion, "meet with the general approval of everybody interested in our science."



Philately At Home.

NO PEOPLE, NO ANIMALS—ONLY STAMPS.

IF any proof were needed of the necessity for the S.S.S.S., it would be amply afforded by the case of the so-called Principality of Trinidad. The Island has suddenly become the centre of diplomatic attention on account of the action of this country in annexing it for cable purposes. Consequent on this comes a little more information than has hitherto been available concerning this spot on the ocean. It now turns out that the Island is not only uninhabited, but shows absolutely no signs of animal life. A few old stumps of large trees are the only remaining indications of even vegetable life. And yet, not so very long ago, a long series of postage stamps from 10 cents up to 5 dollars were chronicled in our leading journals and are even included in the last list published by a prominent supporter of the S.S.S.S., Mr. Wm. Brown, of Salisbury.

THE NEW FRENCH POSTAGE STAMPS.

FROM *Galignani* we learn that Mons. Grasset has been commissioned to design the new French postage stamps. In the design now adopted France is symbolised by the figure of a woman seated, holding in her left hand an olive branch and her right resting on the handle of a sword. The composition is on a blue ground, but the monotony of the blue is relieved by the interlacing of two branches, in the form of a crown, to the left of the figure.

BEWARE OF MEN FROM RICA.

WE must warn philatelists against a party at Riga who at first pays for all he buys, then pays part, and then says he will pay next time, after which he neglects even the formality of replying to your letters. Riga altogether is a very funny place, and the less our readers have to do with it the better they will like it.

HOW FOREIGNERS MAY HELP THE S.S.S.S.

OUR good friends of the *D.B.Z.*, in their number for July, mention the stamps of Brunei as being valueless, winding up their words with the words "Where is the S.S.S.S." Pray, dear Dr. Brendicke, give us a chance. It would be quite impossible to announce quicker than we have done that the stamps of Brunei are denounced by the "S.S.S.S.'s" circular No. 2, dated July 15th. We should think our friends abroad could better help the S.S.S.S. by communicating their suspicions in such cases to the executive. We can faithfully promise that everything sent to the Secretary in this way will receive immediate attention. The S.S.S.S. is not going to run on P.P.A. lines.

It is pleasing to note, by the way, that the leading papers in Germany are beginning to discontinue the practice of chronicling stamps which are palpably gumpaps. English journals, please copy.

"ERE Y'ARE! EXTRY SPESHUL—ORRIBLE OUTRAGE!"

Much needless fuss is being made, both here and in America, about the practice of sending out unsolicited approval sheets. Some of the younger scribes of the American Press are howling themselves hoarse over this very trifling matter. To send an approval sheet or book to a man who has not asked for it is "a disgrace to the trade," says one journal; "an outrageous annoyance," says another; "a disgraceful practice," pipes a third. We fail to see it. On the contrary, we regard it as perfectly legitimate business, a fair outlet for the energy and push of the go-ahead dealer. We have never yet met that very irritable type of collector, the one who regards it as an outrage, and an intolerable nuisance, that a stamp dealer should take advantage of what is very often his only chance of doing business with a distant philatelist. We should rather like to meet a sample of him for discussion purposes.

TIPS FOR WOULD-BE DEALERS.

FROM Mr. W. J. Hall, of the International Stamp Agency, Seaforth, Liverpool, we have received the eighth edition of "How to Deal in Foreign Stamps," a little book which seems to be honestly worth the sixpence charged for it. Though no trade secrets of a very startling character are divulged (perhaps because there are no such secrets?) yet the book is crammed with sound common-sense advice, and should prove of great assistance to small dealers and to the many collectors who "do" an occasional "deal."

Mr. PHILLIPS AND THE LEVISON COLLECTION.

MR. CHARLES J. PHILLIPS, writing on July 29th, says:—"In reading your interesting interview with Mr. Levison, I note a paragraph which, undoubtedly, refers to me, as I am, I believe, the only London dealer who saw his collection in New York. The paragraph is as follows:—"Speaking of London dealers it may amuse you to know that one of them valued my collection in New York at about £3000, I naturally smiled when this was reported to me."

The facts that this is based upon are as follows:—In January, while I was in New York, Mr. Levison called on me and asked me to look at his collection with a view to purchase. I asked him to name his price, and he started to value the collection, but found it rather a long job, and asked me to go through it before he had finished the valuation. I did this and made up my mind what I could pay for it, a note of which I brought away with me to London. Mr. Levison promised to write me as to the exact price he would accept, and I was then to let him know at once whether I would take the collection or not, but I never heard from him on this subject. The price I could pay was very considerably over £3000, and this price did not include any of the German envelopes.

My reason for writing is to show you and your readers that it is untrue I offered some £3000 for a collection which realized nearer £8000. I should have been glad to have bought it for £5000, but it was never offered to me at any price—whatever Mr. Levison may say to the contrary—and I never told anyone what I could pay for it. No doubt some one else, trying to get the collection, started the rumour of £3000 in order to deteriorate its value with a view to his own advantage."

DID NOT STAY TO PAY.

We gladly give publicity to the following circular sent to us by Messrs. Williams, Field & Co.:—

STOLEN.

On July 18th to 20th, from Williams, Field & Co., Booksellers' Row, London, W.C., Half Tornese Blue Naples Cross, supposed by person answering following description:—Height, 5ft. 8in.; complexion, sallow; clean shaven; Frenchman; aged 28 to 30; speaks good English; gave name of Keller, 80, Fulham Road, which address has proved bogus. If any person answering above description should offer stamp described for sale, kindly detain and communicate with above, who will gladly pay any expenses incurred in communicating with them. Dressed in light trousers, black frock coat and hard felt hat (black).

HOW STAMPS MAY BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT A CAMERA.

A READER of the "S.C.F." gives us particulars of a system by which stamps may be photographed without the aid of camera or lens. The process he employs is simplicity itself, the only apparatus required being an ordinary printing frame. The stamp which it is desired to reproduce is laid on a clean glass in the frame with its back to the glass (the stamp taking the place of the *film* in the ordinary negative). Of course any *paper* must be removed from the back of the stamp by soaking (see Junior Philatelist, page 5). A piece of albuminized sensitive paper is then placed on it and the frame closed and exposed to the light in the ordinary way. This will print just like a negative only of course somewhat more slowly. Do not print too deep. Then fix either with or without toning. Wash well and let it dry spontaneously. When quite dry (the print is of course a *negative* copy of the stamp) lay it downwards on a clean surface, and with a little cotton wool dipped in *linsed oil* rub the back well. Then

leave it for a time, the oil soaks into the paper and renders it semi-transparent. It should show parts of the design on the back just as an unfixed negative does. Now, after seeing that its *face* is quite free from any trace of oil, place it in the printing frame as you would any other negative, and also a piece of albuminized or any other printing paper. Close the frame and expose to the light. As this is a "dense" negative it will bear direct exposure to bright sunshine. Print and fix as usual. As regards the *colour* of the prints we may mention that they are all *untoned*. Being merely book illustrations we did not regard the colour as a matter of importance.

Any drawing or writing, which is only on one side of the paper, can be reproduced in the same way. Very effective "cards" may be made by drawing a design, etc., in ink on not too thick paper and exposing this in the printing frame in the reverse manner, *i.e.*, design outwards. This will give a print with the drawing in *white* lines on a *dark* background, and does not need the production of a *negative* first. In our next number we hope to give an example.

**City of London Philatelic Club.****HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.**

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, *The Monthly Journal*, *The Philatelic Record*, *The Philatelic Chronicle* and *Advertiser*, and A. Smith & Son's *Monthly Circular*.

From France: *L'annonce Timbrologique*,

From Germany: *Internationales Offertenblatt Briefmarken*.

From Spain: *Ilustracion Filatelica* and *El Heraldo Timbrologico*.

From United States: *Filatelie Facts and Fancies*, *The Post Office*, *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*, and *McKeel's Weekly Stamp News*.

From Buenos Ayres: *El Filatelista Sud-Americanos*.

The Librarian also thanks Messrs. C. H. Mekeel, St. Louis, for Part III. of their "Standard Catalogue of the World."

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings at Cossavella's Restaurant, 121, Cheapside, E.C.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

During the summer months meetings will only be held once a month as follows:—August 15th, and Sept. 12th. Many new members have recently joined, and there is little doubt that the Committee will be able to recommend the acquisition of a proper club room *open at all times of the day*.—Full particulars will be sent to members as soon as the Committee have decided what steps are to be taken.

ALL MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO ATTEND THE NEXT MEETING, AUGUST 15th, AS MATTERS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE WILL BE DISCUSSED.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP,

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Our Prize Scheme.

WE must remind all readers who are competing for prizes in connection with the competition opened in January last (and of which full particulars may be found in the "S.C.F." Nos. 8, 9, 10) must forward their lists of subscriber's names, with the amount of their subscriptions, to our office not later than September 21st, on which day the "S.C.F." completes its first volume and its first year of life.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheap-side, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, AUGUST 10, 1895.

. . Between Ourselves . .

DURING the last few weeks we have been absolutely inundated with all sorts of enquiries about all sorts of people who do not seem to fulfil their engagements. Of one party we give a detailed account in a different column.

The defalcations on going to press have nearly reached four figures, and we feel sure even this will be exceeded. It now turns out that half-a-dozen dealers in London were perfectly aware of the fraudulent character of Mr. Tomasso Coelho, but kept quiet "as they did not want to have any bother." It pleases us a little to be able to say that one of these timorous gentlemen has through a mistake of his clerk been let in for a considerable amount. Had the party in question, who belongs to the P.P.A., nay, is even a Committee member, had lodged information with the Committee, he would have fulfilled his duty to philately. The fact that complaints had been raised against the party would at once have put everyone on his guard, and these wholesale frauds would not have been perpetrated.

In another case, a firm of stamp merchants, Harold Conne & Co., have advertised everywhere, in almost every paper in the world, "that they wished to buy stamps at wholesale rates." Latterly they had the effrontery to state that they were about to open a shop, and wished to purchase rare stamps to any amount. We have instituted enquiries and find that Harold Conne & Co. is a myth, that the firm is represented by Mr. Harold Conne, who lives in a single furnished room at the address stated, and that he has now departed for America without leaving any address. Every post now brings us the enquiry, "Where are Harold Conne & Co.," and echo answers "WHERE?"

In another case, a small inexperienced dealer whose connection with stamps is not yet 12 months old, purchased some high value I.R. Officials which he offered right and left till he was told that the surcharge was a forgery. Had he not been told so, no doubt he would have sold them, and some poor confiding collector would have been the victim. We have no hesitation in saying that if this small dealer had been asked, do you guarantee the stamps? his reply would have been "Yes, certainly." That such a guarantee is worse than useless need not be emphasized.

Another case. A famous detective agency has been for weeks past busy in ascertaining why a certain firm of "stamp dealers" persistently refuse to pay their accounts, and rumour has it that those to whom money is due stand little chance of obtaining it.

One more case. We know of another firm who are in the habit of selling imperforate stamps which are obviously manufactured from the perforated series. We ourselves know five cases against this firm. In one case a collector questioned the genuineness of the stamp, when he was indignantly told "we guarantee this stamp." The collector then said he would submit it to two dealers in London for opinion. Then Mr. — hastened to say, "Don't submit it to Messrs. Hilckes & Co.," knowing that we had found the party out three or four times.

To sum up; such a state of affairs is an absolute disgrace to the trade and dangerous to the interests of those who have heard of the word honesty and practice accordingly. As long as it is possible for anyone who has £20 in stamps and a five pound note to pay his first week's rent, to blossom forth as a full-blown stamp dealer with as much experience as any street arab who once collected stamps in a 1d. album, as long as this is possible, huge frauds and swindles will be perpetrated day by day.

The remedy, however, lies in the collectors' hands. Have nothing whatever to do with those mushroom dealers who have no standing, know nothing whatever about stamps, and would be much better sweeping a crossing than at their assumed "profession." It is no use mincing matters; stamp dealing to-day is not what it was twenty years ago. Then it was possible for anyone to start as a dealer, simply because no one knew anything whatever about stamps; but to-day, when the most elaborate treatises on stamps are published, when the publishers of catalogues pay endless sums for editing their works, it is absolutely necessary to be acquainted with what is happening, and with what is published about stamps and philately. A dealer should know *more* than a collector and not *less*. It is the collector when he wants information who appeals to a dealer for his experience, but it is a farce to ask a man about his opinion on stamps who knows nothing whatever about it. We call our hobby a science, but a nice science it is if our own "professors," that is to say, those who profess to know, are more ignorant than the students. We have thought this matter over for many months, and shall have something more important to say on the subject in our next issue. Meanwhile, we shall be pleased to receive any expressions of opinion which the question may evoke.

H.H.

We gave it as our opinion in No. 18 of the "S.C.F." that the stamps of Abyssinia, if genuine at all, were purely local in character. To that opinion we still hold, despite the envelope sent to us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., of which envelope we append a reduced facsimile:—



Far from controverting what we have said about these stamps, the envelope itself confirms our contention that they are of a purely local franking-power. The postmarks it will be seen are:—Entotto, May 5; Harrar, May 5; Djibouti, June 20th; Obock, June 21; and Ipswich, July 10. From Entotto, and Harrar to Djibouti, this letter was apparently

If you want to know how to "make a bit" and help us at the

franked by Abyssinian stamps. We say apparently, because there is a somewhat suspicious similarity between the ink used for the postmarks of Entotto and Harrar respectively; but let that pass. Let us suppose that the Abyssinian stamps franked to Djibouti, but at that point certainly they lost all value. A Djibouti label was necessary to carry them to Ipswich, and that is just the very simple point that proves the Abyssinian stamps to be worthless in the eyes of a philatelist.

P.C.B.

* * *

It grieves us to read in a French paper, *Le Timbrophile Poitevin*, the question, whether or not it is right to offer facsimiles or reprints, described as such, for sale? In other words, is the trade in forgeries (described as such) permissible? We are glad, by the way, to see reprints classified under the same head as facsimiles, because that is their proper place. But we are not glad, as we have said before, to see this question gravely asked in the columns of a journal of repute. We had thought that by this time it was too well known that no such traffic is permissible. The matter can be settled without much thought or argument. Suppose "A" sells "B" a parcel of forgeries "described as such." Very well. "A's" action is perhaps honest enough, but what guarantee have we that "B" will be equally honest in retailing the same goods. The danger lies not in the first transaction, but in what that first transaction will almost inevitably lead to. We cannot too strongly condemn any philatelic paper that accepts advertisements from persons offering goods of this wretched described-as-such class. The amount of damage done is incalculable. It is quite true that a large number of rare stamps are unobtainable by the average collector. But why should he buy facsimiles to fill the empty spaces? An ordinary illustration, such as is found in the albums published in Germany, will be of quite as much use as any facsimile. We are quite aware that the facsimile idea was at one time countenanced by Messrs. Senf, with a view to enabling the collector of moderate means to fill spaces in his album which must otherwise remain for ever blank. All the facsimiles issued by the great German firm were plainly over-printed with the word facsimile; but it is acknowledged that some of them were so carefully postmarked by unscrupulous people, with the cancellation just covering the word "facsimile," that many people were deceived and swindled. It is almost needless to add that directly Messrs. Senf discovered this they stopped the sale of the dangerous labels. Later on they took the equally praiseworthy step of discontinuing the sale of all reprints, recognising as other big firms have recognised, that reprints are for all practical purposes forgeries. Well, that is our case. And we appeal to all our fellow editors, especially of those papers which make a speciality of advertisements, to refuse space to those who deal in the worse than worthless wares of the described-as-such order.

P.C.B.

EVERY time a new catalogue comes out the cry goes forth "higher still." Very often a collector will say, "of course, since catalogues are issued by dealers, it is in their interest to keep up prices, and hence why each succeeding edition of a catalogue shows higher figures." But is this really a fact? Is it likely that the dealers would ask prices which they could not obtain, and is it likely that collectors would buy if they did not think that their investments might still show a prospective profit? We have no hesitation in saying that catalogues issued prior to 1894 did not represent the then ruling market prices. They were published with a purpose, and in many cases prices were inserted which were deliberately wrong. In some cases where a stamp was marked, say 2/6, the dealer who published this catalogue would not sell for double that amount; but if that particular stamp was offered to him for buying purposes he would say "O yes, we catalogue that stamp at 2/6, but I cannot give more than 1/6." However during the last year or so, collectors have demanded everywhere that their catalogues should be catalogues not only in

name but also in fact, hence why Messrs. Scott's latest catalogue gives correct quotations of most of the American stamps. Hence why Messrs. Stanley Gibbons are revising their forthcoming edition as regards British and Colonial stamps, and hence why Messrs. Senf pay special attention in their new edition to unused Europeans. But all this levelling up means a rise in price to the uninitiated, who, when they see a stamp marked 2/6 in the old edition and 17/6 in the present edition, say "the stamp has gone up awfully," whereas, as a matter fact, this particular stamp was always worth from 12/- to 15/-, although catalogued 2/6. We will only name one instance to illustrate our remarks. Stanley Gibbons' last catalogue quotes Hamburg, 4sch., imperf., used, at 12/-, while Senf, published about the same time, demanded 35/-. On the day the Stanley Gibbons catalogue was despatched, an order was sent to them to supply half-a-dozen copies at that price, and they were unable to do so. Similar orders were sent to Messrs. Senf with respect to other stamps, with the same result, which clearly proves that the published prices were not the true market value. We daresay the 4sch. Hamburg, will be priced about 45/- in the forthcoming catalogues of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Senf, but as a matter of fact that stamp was worth 35/- two years ago. Our catalogues of to-day are a much truer mirror of the proper value, but it is, perhaps, as well to point out to those who are sure to get frightened at the higher prices, that in reality these prices have long been realised in the auctions. A careful study of our auction supplement will prove this at once.

H.H.

Will He No' Come Back Again?

THE STRANGE CASE OF TOMASSO COELHO.

A WAVE of dishonesty, or something painfully like dishonesty, is passing over the metropolis. Two or more sudden disappearances of men who had gained the confidence of the metropolitan philatelic fraternity have made the more alert stampites sit right up and pinch themselves to see whether they are awake or whether "visions is about." It is most unfortunate that at the close of a most prosperous season, and at a moment when everything gave promise of continued prosperity, the confidence of the public should be subjected to a sequence of severe shocks.



We wish to allude specially to the curious case of Tomasso Coelho, a gentleman of colour, who established himself here last year as a stamp dealer, and who is now many thousands of miles away with his pockets choke full of money belonging to other people. The whole thing has occurred with such startling suddenness that everyone is bewildered, and many incredulous. He will come back again, some think, and settle up. Will he? This hoping against hope is in a way a testimony to the talents of Tomasso Coelho, who it must be admitted gained the confidence of all his London associates in a surprisingly clever manner. Everywhere and by everybody—ourselves unfortunately among the number—Mr. Coelho was credited with being absolutely straightforward.

About a year ago, as we have stated, Mr. Coelho started business at 136, Fenchurch Street, under the trading name of Coelho and Fernando. After a time it was given out that his partnership with Mr. Fernando was dissolved, but we have reasons for believing that "Mr. Fernando" never existed in the flesh. That however is beside the point. After a further lapse of time Mr. Coelho announced the

removal of his business address to 181, Wightman Road, Harringay, London. N. Surely and steadily he worked himself into the confidence—in many cases into the close friendship—of the dealers and collectors he met. Nothing being known against the man he was recognised and received everywhere. The City of London Philatelic Club admitted him to membership; the International Philatelic Union made him one of its Vice-Presidents. He went everywhere, did everything, and, it must now be sorrowfully added, "did" everybody. The City of London Philatelic Club's exchange packet is a creditor; the I.P.U.'s packet also was probably laid under contribution to a large amount; and from the letters which have arrived at 64, Cheapside, in response to the advertisement placed in the last FORTNIGHTLY we learn that the total of his defalcations runs well into four figures.

Those members of the C.L.P.C. who participated in last summer's pleasure jaunt up the river will not need to be reminded that Coelho at that time contemplated matrimony. His fiancée was with him, and it is by means of the group photograph then taken that we obtain the portrait appearing on the previous page. Shortly after that pleasure trip Coelho *did* marry, and with questionable taste at once imported his wife's name into his schemes. He gave it out broadcast that he wished his wife to make a collection of stamps. He also made out that he expected remittances from his home in Venezuela (?). On these statements, together with the unblemished character he was supposed to bear, he received books on approval from everyone to whom he troubled to apply. In some cases he gave cheques post-dated the 10th of July; sometimes he paid something on account; but as a general thing he obtained credit outright.

On June 27th, Coelho wrote various people stating that he would leave that day for Edinburgh—as his wife had to go there to undergo an operation. He went so far as to give the address of a doctor in the northern capital. But he went no further north than Harringay, there to complete his arrangements for leaving the country. Travelling by cab to Waterloo, he took the first train to Southampton and embarked on the steamship Paris; and, although his boxes were labelled "Hamburg," there is no reason to doubt that he was bound for the States. And all this time his London friends suspected nothing. That story about the Edinburgh doctor and the operation was readily swallowed.

Suspicion was first aroused by the fact that letters sent to the address Coelho had given in Edinburgh were returned marked "No Such Address." Then, for the first time, the people who had trusted Tomasso Coelho began to look things in the face and to compare notes. It was then found that during the last few days of his stay here the man had "worked" the dealers most assiduously. He had obtained a book here, a sheet there, and in many cases had gone off with whole books full of stamps of no mean value.

THE RECORD OF COELHO, ALIAS QUAIL.

In the course of our inquiries in connection with this matter we have happened upon certain facts connected with Coelho's past that seem to put a new complexion on the matter. We find that Coelho, under the name of Quail, spent some time in England about twelve years ago. After that, in 1880, he was in New York, staying at a hotel in Fulton Street; and there, unless our information is at fault, he played pretty much the same game as he has more recently played in London.

At some time previous to this the man seems to have been President of a Philatelic Society in the British Colony of Guiana, and was for a time a well-known figure in Demarara and Georgetown.

By means of the perfect likeness of Coelho here given he may be easily recognised; and we appeal to all philatelists in the American continent to look out for this man.

A WARRANT FOR COELHO'S ARREST

Has been taken out, and anyone assisting justice in this matter will at the same time be rendering a great service to philately. We appeal specially to our numerous readers in Demarara, Georgetown, New York, and Venezuela (alleged to be Coelho's native country) to keep their weather eye open.

It is further stated, by the way, that Coelho has a father living in good circumstances; and as it is our object to see whether some of the money cannot be recovered, the whereabouts of the real home of Tomasso Coelho would be of great service to us.

The 7th German Philatelic Congress at Mannheim.

SPECIAL DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

ONCE more for the seventh time German Collectors came together at Mannheim, on the 13th July. Trains from all directions brought philatelists as early as Friday night, and at the preliminary meeting of Delegates of the various Societies, nearly every one of them was present. Those of my readers who have read my reports in the *London Philatelist* for the last three years will know the objects of the Philatelic Congresses, but for the benefit of those who are ignorant of this object, I will give a few particulars.

In the year 1889, Hauptmann Wagner, a philatelist of a most idealistic turn, formed the idea that an annual convention of collectors to deliberate on the burning questions of the day would be of the greatest possible help to philately, and with that object he called together a meeting in Mainz, in that year, which was attended by the respectable number of sixty! Nothing of course of importance was done, except that the ball was set rolling. Other Congresses were held in the ensuing years in Frankfurt, Dresden, Prag, Berlin, Kiel, all showing an increased attendance, and at this time in Mannheim, the highest attendance was reached, viz., 180 members; that in itself is an absolute proof that these Congresses are wanted, and if up to now, not much *absolute* results have been attained, the fault lies not so much with the Delegates, but rather with the enemies of the Congresses who do not object to them because they think they are useless, but do object because they have no hand in it themselves. During the last year a great deal has been written and published in Germany on the subject of these Congresses; but the very fact that the attendance at Mannheim was 20 per cent. higher than at any other Congress, proves their popularity. In addition the work done this time has been of such substantial character, and has been done in such a peaceful and unanimous way, that the Seventh German Philatelic Congress can in truth be called the "Peace Congress." As mentioned before, a preliminary meeting was held by the Delegates on the day previous to the official opening, when the views of the various German clubs were ascertained from their delegates on the points raised in the official programme, and I believe a great deal of unnecessary quibbling was thus averted. After these deliberations on Saturday, the rest of the evening was spent in refreshing old acquaintances, making new ones, changing, buying and selling stamps, and otherwise making oneself agreeable.

On Sunday, July 14th, at 9 a.m., the official meeting was opened by the president, Mr. Poenicke, who throughout the meeting conducted the affairs in a most satisfactory manner. Then followed a paper, read by Mr. Glasewald, on "How shall we improve our System of Exchange Packets." I shall no doubt, as soon as the shorthand report comes to hand, give a lengthy extract from this paper, which should be of immense benefit to secretaries of packets, who up to now flounder about in the most unsatisfactory manner, getting robbed right and left, and cannot get their money in, &c., &c. The suggestions advanced by Mr. Glasewald are very sound, but I am sorely afraid, the English law of libel (such as it is) will not permit of introducing his scheme into this country in the same shape.

The next paper, on the "Abuses in Philately" by Mr. Motz, showed in a short and concise way what philatelists have to put up with, and how best to overcome the difficulties. Of course, his chief abuse was our friend "the gumpaps," but as they will be dealt with further on I will refrain from making any remarks.

Then followed Mr. Umpfenbach's report on the success of the *Korrespondenz Blatt*. This paper is of such a peculiar nature that I cannot refrain from going into the subject more closely.

The paper was started four years ago as a kind of confidential circular which only circulates among the clubs by whose authority it is published. It contains reports of all

the Societies as regards their membership, their officers, payment and non-payment of dues, expulsion of members and such like notes. It further contains a most detailed description of new forgeries, if possible with photographic reproduction of the delinquent; lastly, and this I consider the most important department, a full and detailed statement of all wrong doers, whether in Mexico, China, Germany or England. If a man defrauds in St. Louis, he is as surely reported to the editors of this paper, as if he had done it in London, and as the paper circulates all over the world, and is read by nearly every secretary of any important Philatelic Society, it is next to impossible for such a party to gain entrance to any respectable club by false pretences. I personally, can assure my readers that over and over again I have been informed of swindling transactions by parties which I had hitherto considered perfectly honest, and in two or three cases it has happened that a few days after I have read the *K.B.*, the very same party has applied to me for stamps—of course in vain. Many a time I have had occasion to report to the *Korrespondenz Blatt* (whose English correspondent I have been since its commencement) of the swindles that have been perpetrated in London, with the result that my German friends were warned, and in consequence saved their money. Such is the nature of the paper, and in the hands of its present Committee of Editors it has proved not only to be a philatelic success, but also a financial success, which Mr. Umpfenbach in his able report proved at the hand of figures, which cannot be ignored by its enemies. The *Korrespondenz Blatt* belongs to no one, but derives its authority from the German Congress who each year appoints a Society to conduct the same, and this Society from its own members selects an Editing Committee. The Frankfort Society who has conducted the affairs of the paper during late years has now relinquished its editorship, which for the ensuing year will be taken up by the Mannheim Society, with the assistance of its old editors. The reason why the Frankfort Society has relinquished its authority, is simply because, although the post is an absolutely honorary one, the editors have been attacked in the last nine months in such a persistent way, not only as editors, but from a personal point of view, that they can hardly be blamed for laying down the pen, and saying "we have had enough of it." I feel however sure that under the new editors the paper will prosper as it has done hitherto, and all those Societies who have not yet subscribed to the paper should not hesitate to communicate with Mr. Umpfenbach, 7 Hegelstrasse, Frankfort a m on the subject.

After the report of Mr. Umpfenbach, Mr. Leo Brumer, the President of the Bavarian Society, supported a resolution of his Society to kill the *Korrespondenz Blatt*, and start another paper on similar lines. However, when this resolution was put to the vote only two supported it, and it was therefore not carried.

Then followed two papers on the old Italian stamps by Mr. Risigari, and the stamps of Heligoland by Mr. Rosenberg, which I shall give in extract as soon as the shorthand notes come to hand.

This concluded the first day's labour. At 3 o'clock there followed a dinner at which all delegates with their "mothers, sisters, their cousins and their aunts" took part, and after that a steamer took us to Worms, down the Rhine, which gave us an opportunity to view that famous old town which is so full of legends relating to Wagner's operas about the Nibelungen. After the return to Mannheim, the usual amount of bartering was indulged in, and it was amusing to notice, once we were settled at the long tables, how quickly everyone unearthed from somewhere about his body, big stacks of approval books, and very soon the whole huge hall of the meeting place was one extensive stamp exchange.

(To be continued.)

To Our Contemporaries.

WE desire to exchange regularly with every philatelic journal at home or abroad. Will all those editors who have not yet done so kindly send two copies of their publications, and we shall be pleased to reciprocate.



THE *Siam Free Press* tells us very gravely that postcard-collecting is the latest fad, and that "multitudes are going in for it!" Dealers who hold large stocks of post cards will probably be wishing that this were true.

India, which has already made one new departure in the shape of postal-wrappers, bearing an up-to-date portrait of Her Majesty, will shortly boast stamps of the values of two, three and five rupees respectively. The wonder is that our Eastern Empire has so long rubbed along with no higher-priced stamp than the one rupee.

In the *Bay State Philatelist* there is an advertisement of the Coupon Music Publishing Co., headed "Filatelic Fusie." Following out this system of philology the *B.S.P.* states that the firm deals in fusie for the fiano, fanjo, fuitar, fandoline, fiolin, and other fusical instruments!

Evidently there is no law in Spain against illustrations of Spanish stamps, for the current *El Heraldo Timbrologico* comes to us from Seville, bearing on its wrapper a perfect facsimile of the 2 reales of the 1851 issue.

THE *Philatelic Monthly* learns that a certain dealer in this country has laid away one hundred 8½d. Nova Scotia stamps in a safe deposit vault not to be opened for three years, at the end of which time he expects to reap a rich reward for his patience.

MR. T. WEBB, of the *Australian Stamp Collector*, appeals to subscribers to hurry along with their dues, as the editor wants a new pair of boots; and this appeal is plaintively addressed to "Gentlemen (and Others.)"

A PAR in the *Indian Postage Stamp News* puts the world's philatelic population at "over a million."



** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

THE GUADALAJARA PROVISIONALS.

SIR,—I have read with interest the remarks on the above in the last number of the "S.C.F.," and as I suppose you wish to be strictly accurate in any information you publish, I beg to make the following remarks and corrections.

But first of all you will want to know what title I possess to speak with any authority on Mexican Stamps. A residence, up to three years ago, of over twenty years in Mexico, and the fact of my having made a speciality of Mexican Stamps, even before I went to Mexico, carries me pretty well back in dates. As regards Guadalajaras, I was the first in England to have any, and for some time got roughly treated, as witness the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* of May 1st, 1867, to whom I sent for inspection the first specimens I received with the result that they were declared "pure deceptions." Later they were acknowledged as genuine, on corroboration from San Francisco, Cal., and the *S.C.M.* wrote me for a sight of my full set, which it described.

But to return to the article in question. In the first place, President Juarez ought hardly to be called a revolutionist, seeing that he was defending his country against a foreign invasion. However, this may be a matter of opinion; but that the adhesive labels, stamp by hand with the Guadalajara postmark, should be available in all those districts where Juarez (who was no general) had authority, is distinctly incorrect. When the returning waves reconquered the country from the Empire, the Maximilian Stamps were replaced

You may have noticed that when a man comes into our advertising columns he stops in.

by the old Republican 1st and 2nd issues existing as remainders at the different post offices of the towns from which the Imperialist troops were driven; and at Guadalajara the postmark label was used when these gave out. Later on, when the capital was entered, a re-issue was made of these old stamps, besides using the remainders, but unfortunately now we can only distinguish those used after the Empire in the City of Mexico, by the Gothic surcharge and the reprints as being on thin blue paper. Those used in other postal districts have no distinguishing mark although perhaps all worn plate impressions may belong to the re-issues. At any rate the fact remains that the Republicans did not use the Eagle series, and yet postage stamps were used during the period up to the issue of 1868, although the use of a postage stamp was not a *sine qua non* in Mexico for mail purposes for reasons I will now explain.

Up to about 1878 or thereabouts—I can't recall the time, but think it was when Mexico joined the Postal Union—Mexican postage stamps were *never sold to the public*. At any rate in 1876 or 1877 I tried to get them to put on my correspondence myself, but was shown a clause in the postal regulations prohibiting stamps to leave the office where alone the letters were stamped in the sender's presence. Of course the rule was not always so strictly applied, especially in later years, and curiously enough I do not remember the rule applying to the first issue of envelopes. However, the above fact will explain many anomalies in Mexican Stamps, such as the surcharges for different post offices, control numbers and dates, &c., &c., and it also will make clear why the Guadalajara Stamps could not be used outside the State of Talisco, *i.e.* in the branch post offices subject to that of Guadalajara. This fact also seems to me to prove that the perforations on the provisionals could not have been of a private origin as surmised in the article from *Die Post*. Again, since the letters were stamped and then postmarked at the post offices on payment of the postage, it follows that frequently a post marked letter would be transmitted by mail although without a stamp when none were available. In the old revolutionary times, before railways existed, communication with the capital was often impossible and I have seen hundreds of letters without stamps, much to my disappointment, simply with the postmark and often with the word "frankeade" or "franco" added. As a matter of fact at first I used to wonder what was the use of postage stamps in Mexico and argue the point with the postmasters, until I understood that they made up a complicated system of checking the money received for postage at the post offices and preventing letters being smuggled through the mails. Letters carried by private messengers between places where a mail was *supposed* to run, had also to be taken to the post office to be stamped or a heavy fine was the consequence, so that a postage stamp also served to allow a letter to go in private hands without let or hindrance.

I hope the above will be of interest and help to your readers.

Yours faithfully,

W. JAMES NEWALL.

the Guildhall Card at a penny would show about 50000 as having been sold. Yet the envelope is a drug at the cost price, while the card readily fetches from 12/- upwards. Why should this be? Your error comes in when you take it that £200 represents 50000 cards. As they were sold at 6d, each only 8000 were issued, and these are cheap at 12/-. It is the old story. The first lot showed such a handsome profit to the speculators that the G.P.O. tried to have a stand in the second time—for a praiseworthy object it is true—still those who speculated in this second lot lost money on the transaction.

W. M. BECKENHAM.—You ask us for information about six firms, whether they are honest, and whether they use ordinary care to see they sell no forgeries to their customers. No. 1—Yes, this firm is good, and we know nothing whatever against. No. 3—This is only a young fellow. We cannot say whether he is honest or dishonest, but we should very much doubt whether he is in every case able to discriminate between forged and genuine stamps. No. 5—This is quite an obscure concern and nothing whatever is known about it. No. 6—We don't know anything against this firm with the exception that their packets contain a great number of Reprints, but this after all is not yet a crime. Nos. 2 and 4 we cannot recommend.

BEGINNER (Battersea).—Your questions are indeed very elementary. A fiscal stamp, as its name indicates, is one used to denote the payment of some tax or other item of Government revenue. Thus a penny postage stamp, when used for receipting purposes, becomes a fiscal. (b) An "unpaid" stamp (more properly called a "postage due" stamp), is one which denotes the payment of some deficiency of postage. We have no unpaid Stamps in England. (c) The surcharge "O.S." signifies "On Service."

X.X. (Waterloo).—(1) As far as we know, no descriptive list exists of Archer's trials of perforation. (2) Archer received 5000 sheets of old penny red to experiment upon; whether he used any other stamps is an open question. (3) Since Archer perfected his machine in 1850, we should think that ended the experiments so far as he was concerned. (4) All later experiments were those made by government workmen who of course had to learn how to use the new invention—Your very kind remarks and suggestions about the English Catalogue will have our most careful attention. It is strange, that so many philatelists will not understand that although a dealer, one can still be of use to philately. I have had many discussions with members of the London Society, as I cannot but consider it a hardship that the mere fact of being a dealer should exclude him from membership to that Society, which without a doubt stands at the head of philately.

C.P. (Jersey).—We cannot give prices of any stamp. Please read note at foot of this.

—May we request all readers not to ask us to price stamps for them. This is information which can easily be obtained through any Catalogue and although we always like to oblige, we cannot possibly afford the time taken up by the reply of such queries.

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Answers to Correspondents.

** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

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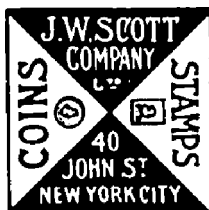
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EXCHANGE SOCIETY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS. THE LARGEST and BEST STAMP EXCHANGE in existence, conducted on RULES of EXCHANGE (PURE and SIMPLE). Subscription, 1/- per annum. Nearly 300 Members. Full particulars, and all information necessary for New Members, will be sent free on application to The Secretary, Mr. C. FORBES, Hon. Librarian, City of London Philatelic Club, 42, Strahan Road, London, E. Foreign correspondence desired with Dealers and Collectors. [4]

CYCLISTS.—Advertiser would be glad to hear from Collectors to form Exchange Club, to meet on S.W. Roads. Send address for particulars.—STOKES, 13, Lindore Road, Battersea Rise. [2]

BRITISH EAST AFRICA. Wanted, all values, cheap. Also West Indies. Have unused 1d., Red Plate Numbers for Sale, cheap.—W. H. EARL, Newcastle, Staff. [2]

SEND 50 British Colonial Stamps and receive same number of Canada and U.S.A.—M. JENKINS, 339, Gilmour St. Ottawa, Canada. [1]

SIXPENCE.—70 different stamps including Colombia, Japan, Mauritius, Nicaragua, Salvador, Chinkiang, Kewkiang, Argentine, Mexico, Roumania, Portugal, Naden (old).—H., 379, York Road, Wandsworth. [1]

FOR SALE.—Number of Philatelic Books. For list and prices apply PHILIP H. LEE, Halifax Old Rd., Huddersfield.

CHEAP ENGLISH PENNY RED Plate Numbers—unassorted, 1/3 per 1,000; 10,000, 7/6. 2d. blue, imperforate, 4/6 per 100. 1d. red, perf. stars in upper angles, complete plate, 4/6, contain only picked copies. Small 1/2d. lake, 1873, 3/- per 100. 1d. red, plate numbers complete (except 225), 150 perfect stamps.5/-—C. NISSEN, 279, Brunswick Buildings, Aldgate, E.

OFFERS?—Famous Balloon Letter, despatched from Paris during the Siege; also French with "Louise" perforations.—PHILATELIST, 98, Coningham Rd., Shepherd's Bush.

BRITISH COLONIALS. Old European, United B States, English used, South America, etc., mostly half-price, with discount. No dealers! State number in collection and requirements.—PHILATELIST, 98, Coningham Road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED.—English Used and Unused, especially the Engraved Series. Good price paid.—BIGGOLD, English Stamp Exchange Society, Mill Hill, London, N.W.

20 Choice Duplicates, 1/1, including Tasmania (rare imperforated), New South Wales (catalogued 2/-), Straits Settlements (scarce provisional), two Western Australia (catalogued 10d), Jamaica (Official), New South Wales (3d. Diademed and 4d. Service), Ceylon (catalogued 9d.), Sarawak (scarce provisional), Canada (registered); others good.—COLLECTOR, 23, Chapel Road, Worthing.

WANTED by Collector. Genuine Collectors' Duplicates at 1/4 to 1d. each. No Dealers. Send on approval to PAUNRETT, 45, Queen's Road, Brownwood Park, N.

MULREADY WRAPPER, black, unused, 12/6; or will exchange for other Stamps.—M. INGLE, 8a, Prescot St., Liverpool.

TO REDUCE STOCK.—50 Varieties, British Colonials for 1/- The surcharged Ceylon alone guaranteed worth more than the money.—F. W. FRANKLIN, 34, Exchange Buildings, Birmingham. [3]

25 Obsolete English Postage Stamps GIVEN AWAY FREE to all genuine Collectors applying for my Approval Sheets, enclosing 1d. Stamp for postage.—E. WOOD, 9, Hoxton Street, London, N.

NEW BRUNSWICK, obsolete; Egypt, official; Sandwich Islands, 1894; Reunion, 1891, surch.; Pahang, Montenegro, unpaid; Canada, eight cents; Bolivar, 12 different Roumania, making forty varieties, 1s. 1d.—SMITH, Arthur Road, Kingston, Surrey. [3]

EXCHANGE.—EDWARD W. DRURY, Westholme, Hessle, Yorks., has for Exchange the following:—210 2d. blue, imperf., being a partly-constructed plate; about 250 1d. imperf.; about 12,000 common 1d. and 2d. New Zealand and Victorian; quantity medium duplicates; no rarities; any reasonable offer entertained.

80 Superior Stamps, including Malta, Bolivia, Deccan, Argentine, 5 Japan, West Australia, Gold Coast, Bulgaria, Grenada, Puttialla, Service, Cyprus, United States (Columbus), Straits Settlements, Transvaal, Egypt, Greece, etc., 1/1. Given to purchasers of the above packet, applying for Approval Sheets—A fine specimen of obsolete Fiji (head).—F. MACKAY, 106, Rochdale Road, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED.—American Stamps: 12 cents purple, 24 cents, violet; and others. Also English Covers, with silk threads and 50,000 1d. reds, unperforated and perforated. Send with lowest price.—COLLECTOR, 35, Alwyne Villas, Cannonbury, London.

PENNY RED, with numbers in centre, 6d. each, postage extra; also Ivory Heads, 6d. each. Sets of Envelopes from 1841 to 1879.—SANTOS STAMP CO., 35, Alwyne Villas, Cannonbury, N.

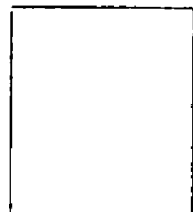
STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB now forming. Subscription, 1/- per year. For particulars write to JAMES W. MARSDEN, 11, Alpha Street West, Seadley, near Manchester. References given and required.

2,000 Collectors' Duplicates, good medium stamps, 33 1/2 per cent. discount. Write for Approval Sheets to JAMES W. MARSDEN, 11, Alpha Street West, Seadley, near Manchester.

50 Excellent Stamps, including Japan, British Guiana, Uruguay, Cuba, Ceylon, Straits Settlements, Hong Kong, Cape of Good Hope, Trinidad, Transvaal, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia, Greece, Roumania, Levant, United States, and many others, 1/7. A. T. DANIEL, 6, New City Road, Barking Road, Plaistow, Essex.

To Postal Subscribers.

PLEASE find on this space a 2 centimes Belgium stamp, presented gratis to postal subscribers only.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

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(Late of BISHOP AUCKLAND),

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NOW**121, Malvern Road, Kilburn Park,****LONDON, N.W.,**WHERE HE WILL BE PLEASED TO SEE
COLLECTORS AT ANY TIME.*Specialité*:—**OBSOLETE LEEWARD ISLANDS.****Forged Surcharges**

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the other side, **mathematically correct.**

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Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd.,**64, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.****WANTED.**—To exchange philatelic papers for same. Send not less than five
of your country each month and receive the same number from mine in ex-
change. GEO. C. CROWLEY, 1358 Lexington Avenue, New York, U.S.A. '16**IMPERIAL ALBUM** (latest edition) two vols. and a few stamps hinge mounted,
quite new, 12s. cost 20s. Also complete set of 22 Columbus envelopes, 10s.
GEORGE HERBERT, Manseville, Idmiston Road, West Norwood.**PENNY REDS.**—36 different plate numbers. Good condition, 1s. Quantity
of Duplicates (English) sell at about half or third catalogue value or exchange
(giving double value) for varieties required to complete sets in collection. 4d.
stamp for reply. "HILLSIDE," Upper Belmont Road, Bristol.→ **PERIODICAL** ←
SALES BY AUCTION

—OF—

RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

At the **ST. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, CHARING CROSS, E.C.**

DATES OF SALE.

September 24th, 25th and 26th. Nov. 12th, 13th, 28th and 29th.
October 9th, 10th, 28th and 29th. December 12th, 13th and 31st.**M**ESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, in announcing
the Dates, which have already been fixed to the
end of the year, beg to draw attention to the following
important Sale:—**September 24th, 25th and 28th**—By Order of the Executors of
MRS. H. CRAWSHAY and another, a Fine General Collection
containing the following Rarities:—Great Britain, the V.R. post-
marked, Oldenburg, complete fine, Saxony, 3 pfennige red, unused,
Monaco, first issue, 5 francs, unused, Naples, Arms and Cross and
50 grano, fine, Spain, 1852 and 3, 2rls., unused, France, 1 franc
orange, Zurich, 4 rappen (2 types), Tuscany, 3 lire and 6 crazie,
Heligoland, first issue, &c., Ceylon, 8d., 9d. and 2/- imperf., 2r.
50c., Phillipines, first issue, unused and fine, Cape wood blocks,
rare Mauritius, Liberia, pair of 12 red imperf., surcharged 6c.,
Canada, 6d. green, fine, and 1c. on laid, British Columbia, 1 dollar,
used, Newfoundland, 1/-, New Brunswick, 1/- and Connell,
Nova Scotia, 1/-, United States, a very fine lot, including a superb
used specimen of the first 90c. blue, Departmentals, &c., a grand
lot of West Indians, including Nevis, 6d. litho, used, 6d. green,
used, St. Christopher, 1d. in colour of 1/-, very rare error,
Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA., St. Lucia, 1/- red, unused, St. Vincent,
5/-, wmk. star, unused, and 4d. on 1/-, Tobago, 6d. ochre, unused,
Barbados, 1d. on half 5/- (2 types), Dominica, 1/- CA., used,
British Guiana, 1851, 4c. blue, superb, and Provisionals, Buenos
Ayres, 3 pesos green, New South Wales, a fine lot of Sydney
Views, 5d. green imperf., unused, South Australia, a pair of 2/-
imperf., between, Western Australia, 2d. brown on red, rouletted,
and others too numerous to mention.Owing to the large number of applications the Auctioneers receive
from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are
issued, when practicable, one month before the date of Sale. In
order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include
stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. The
greatest care is requisite in the preparation, so that a correct and
comprehensive description of the stamps may be given.*Valuations made if required.*

Catalogues of all Sales and Terms can be had on application to

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper,**35, OLD JEWRY, LONDON, E.C.**

(PHILATELIC DEPARTMENT).

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:—

"VENTOM, LONDON."*Telephone Number, 15,076.**Established 1761.*



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With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

CONDUCTED BY
HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:
 The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
 The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.

No. 24.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	193
Gossip of the Hour	194
Philately at Home	194
City of London Philatelic Club	195
Between Ourselves	196
Secret Marks of Switzerland	196
The Wave of Dishonesty	197
Under Bennett's Clock	198
The Mannheim Congress	198
Our Forum	199
Answers to Correspondents	200

Philatelic Personalities.

By the way, in speaking of Tomasso Coelho's achievements we inadvertently blundered to the extent of stating that the missing man had been made one of the I.P.U.'s Vice-Presidents. This was untrue, for Coelho was only a Committee member of that body. Apologies to the real Vice-Presidents of the I.P.U.—an honourable and much respected triumvirate.

THAT warlike and large-hearted little Jap, Field Marshal Count Yamagata, is probably beginning to regret his generous response to the appeal of a little Swiss stamp collector who yearned (by letter) for a complete set of the postal labels of the Country of Chrysanthemums—and got them! For another philatelic nipper—Master George Champion of Dursley—has since asked a similar favour of the Marshal, and has got a similar response. But it is to be hoped that stamp-collecting juveniles will now give the good Marshal a rest, for such kindly generosity is not likely to stand the strain of constant appeals.

THIS Master George Champion, we are informed by a Bradford friend, is only seven, and wrote his letter to Marshal Yamagata without help from anyone, and indeed without consulting anyone. He is quite the "infant prodigy" of philately. We called him just now a philatelic nipper, and the use of this word, taken in conjunction with Master Champion's surname, might very well lead his proud papa to

sing his praises in Chevalierian measure. We have great hopes of Master George Champion of Dursley. In the years to come he may be known as a leading specialist in the stamps of Japan.

* * *

LORD BRASSEY, we are assured by Mr. Charles J. Phillips, is not a stamp collector. In a recent "personal," we stated that he was, our authority being the *Australian Philatelist*, which invested the statement with some verisimilitude by adding that Lord Brassey collected some of his best philatelic gems during his historic "Voyage in the 'Sunbeam.'" One regrets the discovery that such a pretty story is untrue.

* * *

MESSRS. THEODOR BUEHL & Co., are at last "Limited," but, we take it, quite prepared to be unlimited in respect to the amount of business they transact.

* * *

SUGGESTION from a reader of the FORTNIGHTLY: "Title for a song for the 'S.C.F.' (respectfully dedicated to Senor Tomasso Coelho): 'Say, Will He Ever Return?'" It is a bit of a coincidence that we chose for the headline of our Coelho article, the title of an old, old song: "Will He No' Come Back Again."

* * *

IN the list of officers of the I.P.U., printed monthly in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, the name of T. A. S. Coelho, no longer figures. So should it be.

* * *

FELICITATIONS to Mr. David Field, a popular member of the London stamp trade, for there is now a Mrs. David Field. Our own blue-penciller, one Percy C. Bishop, has also joined the Benedicks.

* * *

MR. HOWARD K. SANDERSON, one of the liveliest of live American dealers, is here on a visit. He hails from Boston and is mixed up in all the new philatelic movements in that very philatelic city.

* * *

OUR new contributor, Mr. Alfred Jingle, is not a well-known philatelist, but a man who has collected stamps for more years than perhaps he cares to remember, in a quiet, unobtrusive way. And Jingle isn't his proper name either! This new member of our staff will discourse fortnightly upon the gossip of the hour.

Will you assist us? You can easily do so.

Gossip of the Hour.

BY ALFRED JINGLE.

Pentonville, August 23rd.

HOW do, dear readers? How do? Editors invite us to have a chat once a fortnight, about things in general and stamps in particular: about S.S.S.A.; P.P.A.; C.L.P.C.; P.S.L.; L.L.D., &c. Ah! &c.; Fine inclusive word that, &c.; covers a multitude of virtues—and sins. Well U and I can find plenty to talk about when we are closeted together in the pages of the "S.C.F."—if we are not disturbed by that dignitary of the very temporal church, to wit, Bishop. His blue pencil is apt to lead to profanity.

Now, what you think of fuss about sending approval sheets, without approval, for approval? Depends on peculiar circumstances, don't it? If you are so hard up that you find it difficult to raise the wind to register the return packet, why then, approval sheets are a condemned nuisance. But say you specialise Principality Trinidad, and Brown, got a 5 franc with inverted centre, reversed corners, compound perfs., and printed in wrong colour, and he did not send it you on "appro." why hang it you'd hang Brown on first opportunity, wouldn't you? I would!

So Mr. Coalhole, or whatever they call him has sloped and left us, like himself somewhat dark as to his whereabouts. But it was a capital idea of our Editors publishing his phiz. My word! You'd know that phiz anywhere; wouldn't you? It should be reproduced in every philatelic journal and circulated in the P.P.A.'s weekly journal of proceedings—that it should. He knew a thing or two, did that Coalhole. I met him on several occasions. Found him mighty good company. Had a beautiful collection, full of rarities I'd searched for in vain: strips of 'em; but he never let out whom he had stripped. Wouldn't buy Nyassas, nor Principality Trinidad; not he! Last time I saw him was at Hadlow's auction. Hadlow smiled at Coalhole; Coalhole smiled and nodded at Hadlow. But I hope Hadlow was one too many for him.

Now there is one thing I want to get at in this very first letter, and that is the question why we have no general and central meeting place for dealers and collectors—something akin to the Philatelic Bourse in Paris and other places. I should like to see some place started where I could drop in whenever I had a few minutes and a copper or two to spare to have a friendly chat about the latest discoveries, and the rise and fall of prices, and do a little chopping and changing. Is the idea absolutely impracticable in our unwieldy metropolis? Surely not if properly started. Hilkes tried to get the idea started a year or so ago, but the "heavies" swooped down on the business and diverted the idea into a conclave to afford dealers the opportunity of rooking each other. But I want the verb "to rook" to be declined thusly, all round:—

<i>Singular.</i>	<i>Plural.</i>
I am rooked,	We are rooked,
Thou art rooked,	You are rooked,
He is rooked;	They are rooked.

That would be a fair and sportsmanlike arrangement. An open field and no favour; that's what's wanted for rooking. And as half the pleasure of stamp collecting is centred in "rooking," called by the nobs "bargain hunting," why, I am of opinion that there is plenty of room for opening a most successful rooking paddock, somewhere in this blessed metropolis. It might be opened in the great rooking centre of the Strand. But how is it to be kept open? Ah! that's the question! On that difficulty I must ruminare a bit.

I am not sure that it would not pay a dealer to open a philatelic reading room free to his customers and to collectors in general on the production of cards, endorsed with a customer's introduction.

Apart from such an opening, some enterprising restaurant keeper might be induced to set aside a philatelic room with admission on signing an attendance book. Once let a restaurant get known as a philatelic centre and it would soon find

the attendance pay. Files of the principal English and foreign philatelic periodicals should be provided as a draw, and to help business. The cost might be defrayed by a committee of management.

The nearest approach to a Philatelic Bourse in this country at present is, I believe, to be found at the meetings of the City of London Philatelic Club, but they scarcely meet the need of a room open to all comers and free of all barriers of membership.

Shall we ruminare and talk the matter over again?

The Suppression Society has got to work in real grim earnest, and is doing good work, but the name is a regular mouthful: Even its initials do not mouth well. I am inclined to think that the Stamp Collectors' Protection Society would have been a somewhat better name, and certainly a more agreeable one under which a secretary might enter into correspondence with the producers of stamps. Under the present name the secretary in the case of such correspondence is in very much the position of a hangman, hard up for fees, trying a prisoner for murder.

The S.S.S.S. is apparently very busy with what our amiable pig-tail friends would call the "foreign devils," but the *American Journal of Philately* suggests that it should begin nearer home "and make a determined effort to stop the British Government from making compound and other envelopes to order." The suggestion cannot be burked. Compound envelopes are an absolutely unnecessary issue, and if turned out by one of our Colonial Governments in such profusion of confusion as they are at Somerset House would speedily be howled down. If it were once to get known that a dealer could get any quantity of adhesive varieties supplied to him on order from any one of our Colonial Governments, there would be a pretty shine kicked up. But I want to know what is the difference in the evil of the business, between the manufacture of varieties of adhesive stamps to order, and the manufacture of envelope stamps to order.

The S.S.S.S. will have to lay this ghost now that it has been raised. To excuse it, or to let it rest where it is, will be a condonation of the very worst kind of speculative issues, namely, a speculative issue clearly made to order for sale to collectors.

I suggest the following paragraph for the next circular:—

"Great Britain. Through the courtesy of Messrs. Queen, Prince & Co., the Society has learned that the British Government manufactures various combinations of impressed stamps on envelopes for sale to collectors. As these combinations are utterly unnecessary for legitimate postal requirements, and are only required for sale to collectors, the Society declares such combinations to be an unnecessary issue, and appeals to all dealers and collectors to discountenance dealing or collecting the same."

But I feel certain that the attention of the authorities need only be called to the matter with some necessary information to secure the S.S.S.S., the kudos of giving a more welcome announcement in some such terms as the following:—

"GREAT BRITAIN.—The Society having called the attention of the authorities at Somerset House of the abuse of the stamping facilities afforded to the public, an order has been issued to the clerks in charge that in future no envelope is to be impressed with more than one embossed stamp."

Philately At Home.

OH, THESE KNOW-ALLS OF THE PRESS!

WHEN will the average Pressman wake up to the fact that stamp collectors have quite enough to collect already; and are *not* overwhelmed with joy at the apparition of every new issue of stamps. "E.D., writing very learnedly in the *Westminster Gazette* with regard to matters which have been public property for months past, says: "It is satisfactory to learn that the venture (the San Marino gum-pap venture) was a success from the financial point of view, for not only were the rulers of the State able to pay their bills like honest men, but a quite respectable sum remained over to put into

the National Exchequer." That philatelists paid down their hard cash to renew the drainage system of San Marino may be mighty "satisfactory" to "E.D.", but probably this is because "E.D." is not numbered among "the curious persons known as philatelists." If the Press cannot discuss philately with common decency, to say nothing of common sense, it were better that they left the subject severely alone.

MR. PHILLIPS AND MR. LEVISON.

MR. CHARLES J. PHILLIPS, in the course of a further letter about the Levison collection, writes: "In your journal, Mr. Levison states in the interview that the portion of his collection sold at auction in New York realised 'a comfortable £3000,' I refer you to the *London Philatelist* for July, page 200, in which it is stated that the total amount realised was £2062, a difference of one third."

THAT "UNIVERSAL STAMP" IDEA.

THE difficulties in the way of the universal stamp are many and serious. Says the *Leicester Daily Post* "The difference between 2½d. in England and 25 centimes in the Latin Union is comparatively slight, but the fluctuations in the rate of exchange, especially in South America, are more serious, and if people could there buy stamps with depreciated silver or paper, European post-offices might sensibly suffer. It is true that this objection applies to the reply post cards, but they are little used."

CRITICISING THE S.S.S.S.

FOR the criticism the S.S.S.S. is meeting with in America, there is perhaps some excuse, but it startles one a little to find Mr. Theodor Buhl (who is *not* a member), seeking to damn the new organisation with faint praise in the columns of his journal. If there is anything to criticise about the S.S.S.S. (which we do not admit), it would be fairer and more sportsmanlike to wait until the new Society has had reasonable time to show what it can do before opening fire upon it. The S.S.S.S. has been in existence only a few short weeks, and we venture to think that the bitterest enemy of the anti-gumpap movement cannot accuse it of inactivity.

EVIL ASSOCIATIONS CORRUPT GOOD PHILATELIC MANNERS.

THOMAS SALE, an errand boy, of Margaret Street, Clerkenwell, was charged on August 15th, before Mr. Corser, at the Clerkenwell Police court, with stealing two gold lockets and a quantity of foreign stamps, value 10s., the property of Thomas Boss Robson, of 151, Farringdon Road. The prosecutor stated that the prisoner was in his employ as errand boy. On Tuesday he missed some stamps. The following day another lad brought some stamps for sale which he recognised as those which were stolen. He knew they were his stamps because his private mark was on the back of them. He accused the prisoner of stealing them, and he said, "Yes, I did take them." He also missed the same morning from his parlour two lockets, but prisoner denied taking them. The mother of the lad said the boy had got into bad company and she could do nothing with him. The prisoner was remanded to the workhouse for a week so that in the meantime a school might be found for him.

TOMASSO COELHO UP TO DATE.

THE coloured gentleman from "Venezuela" seems likely to escape scot free. At the moment of going to press, after a long correspondence with, and many visits to, the Treasury Department, we have received the following letter:—

WHITEHALL, 20th August, 1895.

GENTLEMEN,

re COELHO (ALLEGED LARCENY).

With reference to my conversation with you this morning about the above case, I beg to inform you that the Directors of the Public Prosecution does not propose to take any steps in the matter. I return the correspondence left here by you.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

ANGUS SCOTT LEWIS.

In all probability we shall have a great deal more to say about this matter in our next issue.

A PARALLEL TO THE BRICHT v. ROSE CASE.

SAYS the *Southern Philatelist*. "Collectors who are in the habit of writing for stamps on approval, and claiming they got lost in the post, had better be more careful in future, as at the trial of G. White, Jr., at Hartford, Conn., recently, for stealing stamps the judge held that this old gag is of no value unless the letter was registered, and from that we presume that a collector can be held for the full value of the stamps sent him, unless he can prove his claim of having returned them. One thing is very certain, and that is that not one-half of the claims made of stamps being lost are true, and it is a good thing that dishonest collectors will no longer have that old excuse to shield them."

City of London Philatelic Club.

THE CASE OF TOMASSO COELHO.

AT the meeting of the Club held on Thursday, August 15th, the subject of the defalcations of Tomasso Coelho was discussed at some length.

On the motion of Mr. Harry Hilekes, seconded by Mr. Forbes, it was resolved to expel Mr. Coelho the club.

After discussion, Mr. Morley moved, and Mr. Joselin seconded, the following resolution:—

"That this meeting suggests that the matter be allowed to stand over for a time, and meanwhile that those members of the Club's Exchange Packet who have suffered in this matter, join with the other creditors in guaranteeing up to 15% of their claims towards the cost of the prosecution."

On being put the meeting the resolution was carried *unm. con.*

HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, and *The Stamp News* (July).

From France: *Revue Philatelicque*, (June and July), *L'Intermediaire de la Timbrologique*, (April, May and June).

From Germany: *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt*, (July).

From Portugal: *O Philatista*, (June, July and August).

From the United States: *The Metropolitan Philatelist*, *The American Journal of Philately*, and *The Evergreen State Philatelist*.

From Buenos Ayres: *El Filatista Sud-Americano*.

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings at Cossavella's Restaurant, 121, Cheapside, E.C.

SCHEME FOR PERMANENT CLUB ROOMS.

As the result of a lengthy discussion on this and other matters connected with the future welfare of the Club, it was resolved that some definite scheme should be brought up at the approaching annual meeting; and in the meantime, in the absence of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Percy C. Bishop was commissioned to enter into correspondence with certain persons in furtherance of the objects in view.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

As it has been considered desirable to have a meeting earlier than 12th September. Members are requested to attend *next week, August 29th*, when the committee will have something more to say as regards the acquisition of premises.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

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Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, AUGUST 24, 1895.

... Between Ourselves ...

WHEN we penned our leading article on "The Wave of Dishonesty" in the last issue of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, we did so without the slightest intention of attacking the small dealer, as such; but looking back upon that article now we can quite see that there is some ground for the letters of protest which have come to us from small dealers. What we *did* wish to say, and what we should like to emphasise most strongly, is the absurdity of Tom, Dick and Harry coming into the trade with a paucity of capital, a still greater paucity of business experience, and a total lack of philatelic knowledge. It is against the "mushroom" dealer that we wish to warn the philatelic public.

*The Secret Marks of
The Stamps of Switzerland—1843-1854.*

[This article was first published in 1893 by A. Larich, of Munich; the author, Freiherr C. v. Girssewald has kindly revised the German work for the special benefit of the readers of the "S. C. F."]

TRANSLATED BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 174.)

THE DISTRICT STAMPS OF THE CONFEDERATION—1849—1850.

In 1849, after the various Cantons had been politically united into one Confederation, the postal affairs of Switzerland were administered by the central government. The country was divided into eleven postal districts. We need mention only those about which we have special remarks to offer:

- 1st District:—Canton of Geneva and the Vaudois district of Nyon.
- 8th District:—Cantons of Zurich, Zug, Shaffhouse and Thurgovia.

The varying coins and money systems used in the Cantons proved a great difficulty in settling a common postal system. Only three cantons, moreover—those of Zurich, Geneva and Basle—were using stamps at all.

Throughout the country four letter "Zones" or districts were instituted, according to distance.

The 1st district extended for 10 hours around.

" 2nd "	" "	25	" "
" 3rd "	" "	40	" "
" 4th "	" "	over 40	" "

A letter cost:—

- In the 1st letter district:—5 rappen for ½ ounce, 1½ rappen for each additional ½ ounce.
- In the 2nd letter district:—10 rappen for ½ ounce, 2½ rappen for each additional ½ ounce.
- In the 3rd letter district:—15 rappen for ½ ounce, 2½ rappen for each additional ounce.
- In the 4th letter district:—20 rappen for ½ ounce, 2½ rappen for each additional ½ ounce.

For a time the old Swiss franc was adopted as a basis, and where this was not used the nearest coin was taken, a corresponding change being made in the rate. A French franc was worth 60 Swiss rappen and a Milanese lira 50. The then existing 2½ rappen stamp of Basle could be used further without change. The new rates could not be introduced into Geneva, where the new French franc was legal and where 2½ rappen equalled 4 centimes, nor in Zurich where the 2½ rappen tax was too low, as the rates for the lightest letter were 4 rappen. A final issue of national stamps applicable to the whole of Switzerland could not be made without a great outlay of labor and time; it was hardly worth the while for the Cantons which as yet had no stamps to issue provisional ones; again the Cantons of Geneva and Zurich would not annul their regulations concerning their own postal affairs. So it was necessary to issue during the transition period some new stamps which are usually called "Swiss Confederation District Stamps." Further research assisted by documents will be necessary before the last word can be written about these stamps of the transition period. Many unexplained peculiarities still remain, especially in regard to the stamps of Geneva. One thing is clear, however, and that is that the names of "Stamps of the Cantons of Vaud, Neuchatel and Winterthur" sometimes given to them are wrong, and should be replaced by the generic title of "District Stamps."

4. 1st POSTAL DISTRICT: CANTON OF GENEVA AND THE VAUDOIS DISTRICT OF NYON.

- 10. September, 1849; 4 centimes, black and red.
- 20. November, 1849; 5 centimes, black and red.

The design of these two stamps, which are commonly called the "Stamps of Vaud" is the same, with the exception of course of the value.

The first is one of the rarest Swiss stamps. Only 5,000 were issued. There is an excellent forgery in existence. The genuineness of a specimen can only be established by careful observation of the following points.



The main differences are to be found in the four corners. The above illustration, which is enlarged, will enable the reader to follow closely our examination of the four corners of the stamp.

- 1. Upper left corner. This is open; the two outside lines do not touch. The first vertical line is scarcely visible; it lies on the frame line, where it stops; the corresponding horizontal line is missing. The second and third vertical lines are not touched by the horizontal lines at their end, so that they overlap a little; the two following lines form an angle, the apex of which rests on the curve of the arabesque.

(To be continued.)

The Wave of Dishonesty.

HOW WE PROPOSE TO PREVENT ITS RECURRENCE IN ENGLISH PHILATELY.

AN ENQUIRY BUREAU FORMED.

DEALERS AND COLLECTORS ALIKE WILL BENEFIT, AND THE SWINDLER WILL BE CHECKED.

PREVENTION is better than cure, even when we have to deal with swindlers and swindling. If we can make it impossible for men like Tomasso Coelho and Harold Conne to batten upon the trustfulness or credulity of the stamp dealing fraternity, we shall feel that we are doing a good work and filling a long felt want. We have long entertained the idea of an English Enquiry Agency or Bureau, specially devoted to the wants of philatelists—

A SORT OF PHILATELIC "STUBBS",

in fact, which should lay itself out to ascertain the precise standing of any person or persons about whom inquiries might be made. In the stamp trade, as in every other business, credit plays a large and a necessary part. We all know the guileless young reformer—he is generally very, very young—who has a theory that credit should be done away with—abolished by act of parliament, or something of that sort. Bless his innocent heart!—he means well, but his economy is of the weakest. Credit, as all our financiers admit, has proved itself the mainstay of commerce, and one might as well attempt to square the circle as to make cash payments compulsory. From the lowly laborer who "runs tick" for his meat and groceries, up to the merchant prince who by a stroke of the pen secures the use of colossal sums for months or years, we all appreciate

THE VALUE AND CONVENIENCE OF CREDIT.

But it is one thing to give credit to persons of known standing and quite another to trust Tom, Dick and Harry upon mere hearsay recommendation. Business in stamps is conducted too often with criminal looseness. If Mr. X refers you to Mr. Y and Messrs. Z, you say to yourself, "very good; this man is all right." Very probably you do not even bother to take up his references, and in that case the man may be in a position to congratulate himself on the success of a piece of audacious mendacity. Supposing on the other hand you wrote to Mr. Y and Messrs. Z and they prove to have business relations with your would-be customer. What happens? Why, they reply (as all people reply in such cases) that "they have done business with Mr. So and So and know nothing to his detriment." If they did know anything to his detriment they probably would not say so, as witness the case of Tomasso Coelho. Several people in London knew this man to be an absolute "wrong 'un." Yet they kept their knowledge a profound secret, and by this cowardly reticence brought heavy losses upon their fellow-traders in London and elsewhere. This Coelho case alone is sufficient to prove to all that

"REFERENCES" ARE A MISERABLE FARCE.

—a farce which should not be allowed further life in a community of hard-headed business men. Anyone can give references. Aye, and good ones too. Tomasso Coelho gave good references. In many cases he doubtless mentioned the names of persons with whom he had had no business relations whatever; but Tomasso Coelho knew the London stamp trade, knew its trustfulness and its eagerness to do business on any terms with anybody. Pity 'tis that the London stamp dealers did not know Tomasso Coelho. They know him now, and for a time they will be less ready to believe the specious yarns of coloured gentlemen from Venezuela with remittances coming by the next West Indian Mail, even though they mention the names of leading stamp firms as references. References indeed! Have none of them! There is but one satisfactory sort of reference, and that is a reference to one's banker. A good banking account covers a multitude—many multitudes—of sms. Senor Coelho, we believe, never gave a banker's reference.

The reference system, as we have said, is a hollow sham. Any rogue can give you good references by the dozen. He would be a poor rogue who couldn't. And if references are valueless, how are the interests of honest traders to be protected in this country of stringent libel laws? There is only one way, and that is the way we have decided to adopt. We have decided to put the idea we have so long cherished into action by

THE FORMATION OF HILCKES' ENQUIRY BUREAU,

which will serve the interests of both collectors of, and dealers in stamps. A suitable office will be taken, and a suitable man appointed to superintend the business. Already arrangements have been made with all the leading inquiry agencies in this country and on the Continent to answer inquiries in districts not covered by our own agents, and this at a rate which will allow us to offer the philatelic public an inquiry service in which efficiency will be combined with economy. For the present, and perhaps permanently, letters and inquiries bearing upon this matter should be addressed:—

THE MANAGER,

Hilckes' Enquiry Bureau,

64, Cheapside, E.C.

It is not unlikely that a periodical "Gazette," giving such business information as affects philatelists, will be issued in connection with the Bureau to annual subscribers thereto. Everything, in short, will be done that can possibly be done to make the Bureau a useful addition to existing philatelic institutions.

"WHERE IS THE P.P.A.?"

is a question we have heard asked more than once during the Coelho commotion. Where, indeed! A real Philatelic Protection Association would surely have made some move in the way of protecting the stamp trade in the present dilemma! In the mind of the ordinary thinking man there must be a suspicion that a body calling itself the Philatelic Protection Association is a body formed for the purpose of safeguarding the interests of philatelists. Poor ordinary thinking man! how woefully is he mistaken if he thinks like this!

OF OPPOSITION TO THE BUREAU

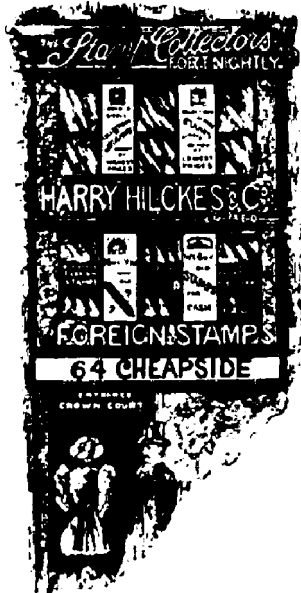
there will be plenty. We know it. There will be trade jealousy. There will, perhaps, be journalistic jealousy. Small-minded men will condemn the Bureau because it is fathered by a dealer whose success they envy; they will seek to boycott the Bureau, and to set others against it. Very well; let them do their worst. We have neither the inclination, nor the necessary capacity for self-abasement, to seek to make terms with such men. We know that to a large circle of honest, well-meaning philatelists, our Bureau will come as a most acceptable innovation. And that is enough for us.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT POINT

in connection with the scheme will be the issue of tickets bearing witness to the honesty and good faith of the person whose name they bear. These tickets will be supplied at a moderate rate to all persons satisfying the Bureau of their perfect integrity and ability to discharge all reasonable obligations. The value of this feature in the scheme it would be difficult to exaggerate. The philatelist will be provided with a cheap and convenient means of proving his respectability, and dealers, Exchange secretaries and others will be saved considerable bother in the way of hunting up references and making furtive enquiries.

it signifies that your Subscription has ceased.

Under Bennett's Clock.



I AM very sorry indeed that the advertisements of Harold Conne & Co. and Tomasso Coelho have appeared in the columns of the "S.C.F." repeatedly. My only excuse is that nothing was known against either party. This I know is no excuse at all, but up to the present time we have no means whatever in this country of discovering whether an individual is straightforward or not. If at any time any reader of this paper knows anything to the detriment of any advertiser in these columns, I shall be obliged if he will communicate confidentially with me, in the interests both of this paper and of the philatelic public generally. In one or two cases this has already been done, and I may mention that on one occasion I wrote at once to the advertiser complained about and

had the satisfaction of learning on the following day that he had fulfilled his obligation, which, as it happened, had only been delayed by pressure of work. I draw attention to this to show that readers of the FORTNIGHTLY may rest assured that their interests will always be zealously looked after.

OUR NEW APPROVAL BOOKS.

We are slowly re-arranging our stock for the coming season and have so far finished as follows:—Great Britain, six volumes, the first four providing for every possible variety of used stamps, showing specimens of rare postmarks, errors of plate numbers, etc., a most interesting set for any English specialist. The fifth and sixth volume comprises a beautiful set of unused stamps, plate numbers in pairs, blocks, etc., and a supplementary volume containing a very nice set of marginal account letters. Other books recently finished are:—Barbados and Trinidad, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Leeward Islands, Bulgaria and Greece, India and Hong Kong, Persia and Siam, Mexico, Argentine Republic and others are in active preparation.

In No. 1 of the "S.C.F." I published a list of our approval books and for those who like to compare the contents of those books ready for circulation, I will give the numbers, 13, 15, 16, 21, 25, 28, 33, 34, 38, 40, 41, 42, 45. The books will be sent in rotation to all those who wish to see them. The number of our list is quite sufficient to identify the books.

OUR PHOTOGRAPH.

With this number instead of the customary stamp an autotype is given representing the delegates who took part in the late Congress at Mannheim. It will acquaint English readers with the faces of many well known men on the Continent. If possible, I shall give in next number a key to same giving all the names, or at least the names of the most prominent ones. The Photograph will make a nice Frontispiece to the bound volume of the "FORTNIGHTLY." Single copies of the Photographs will be 3d. each, postage extra. This reminds me that a cover has been designed for the first volume of the "FORTNIGHTLY" which will be ready with number 26, and which we can supply at 1/- nett, or 1/1½ post free. Those who wish the volume bound can also be accommodated for an extra 1/-, that is to say we will supply a cover and bind the volume up with supplement and title pages at the end for 2/3 post free. Complete bound volumes will be 5/- each.

OUR ENQUIRY DEPARTMENT.

In another column I give details of a scheme which every one will no doubt agree is of the utmost necessity. It takes many months to get such a department into full working order, but I can faithfully promise that every enquiry will be

undertaken in the most thorough manner as I have thought of a system which almost precludes any mistakes. For obvious reasons I can give no details of that system. I feel sure if this department is well supported by dealers and collectors alike it will be not only of great benefit to collectors in their exchange relations but will vastly help dealers in opening up new connections. I trust all those of my readers who feel the necessity of such a department will do everything to make it known amongst their friends.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

A good many subscriptions fall due with this number, and I should esteem it a favour if renewals would be forwarded without delay. A green slip is issued with this number to all those whose subscriptions have lapsed.

HARRY HILCKES.

The 7th German Philatelic Congress at Mannheim.

SPECIAL DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

By HARRY HILCKES.

(Concluded from page 190.)

AT 8.30 precisely on Monday, the 14th July, a tram with all delegates on board started for Heidelberg, where the second and most important part of the programme was to be carried out. Very aptly the Committee chose the surroundings of Heidelberg as a fit place for the debates to take place. The very air had a peaceful influence on minds in general and philatelists in particular, and who knows perhaps it is to be attributed to the geniality influenced by the ancient history of Heidelberg which prompted every delegate and every speaker to refrain from those disagreeable personalities which were unfortunately so very much to the fore at Berlin and Keil. The first point, at 9.30, was to consider means and ways how to counteract the pernicious influence on philately of those small Exchange Societies which were only founded to benefit their promoters. In this country such a thing also exists in the shape of unreliable Exchange Societies, whose chief object is to get as many members as possible without in the least requiring any references, and when the Secretary, after three or four months working (when he has received a sufficient number of sheets to make it worth his while) decamps. It is true this does not happen very often in this country, but when we consider the immense number of philatelists in Germany, which are estimated at something like six to one in England, it will be easily understood to what a length this can grow, and as a matter of fact has grown in Germany.

After a very short discussion, the Frankfort Society was instructed by the Congress to take up the question and report at the next year's Congress. The second point was a resolution proposed by Mr. Glasewald, whether it would not be more advisable to transfer the *Korrespondenz-Blatt* to a separate firm. Closely allied to this proposed resolution was an amendment brought in by the delegate of Munich to cease issuing the *Korrespondenz-Blatt* altogether! It was curious to watch the somewhat long face of the delegate of Munich when the result of the voting was made known, only three delegates, that is, himself and two other sections of the Munich Society, voting in favor of his amendment, which was thus lost ignominiously.

A vote of thanks was then at once passed to the Frankfort Society who have so ably edited this paper for the last three years, and who, as stated, gave up the editorship in favour of the Mannheim Society. The next point is the one which will be of greatest interest in this country. After a short and concise statement by Mr. Umpfenbach and Mr. Weegmann about "Speculative Issues," it was decided, unanimously, to form an Executive Committee in Germany to work together with our London Committee, and, what is more, £30 was at

once signed towards expenses. The Elderfeld Society was commissioned by the Congress to watch the work of this committee, in fact to be responsible for its proper conduct to the next Congress. On this point discussion was invited, especially as some very ardent speakers not only wish to root out the future speculative issues, but wanted to make a clean sweep of everything issued hitherto, which may be construed into a speculative stamp. As this point has been somewhat of a bone of contention among the London Committees, I took opportunity to explain why it was most unwise to make the action of the S.S.S.S. a retrospective one. My contention was that the Executive Committee would have their hands full for some time to come to investigate the new issues, and only when the present crusade had had a beneficial influence on the acts of the various petty governments, thus stopping all these unnecessary stamps, only then would the Committee find time to look back and clear our Catalogues and Albums of all the unnecessary stamps issued during the past ten years. It was the first time since the S.S.S.S. has been established that there was an opportunity of hearing the opinions of dealers and collectors alike on this question, and I was agreeably surprised to see such unanimity of opinion. It was mentioned that when three years ago the German Congress at Prague denounced reprints altogether, everyone thought it most useless and waste of time to dictate to collectors what not to collect. Absolutely nothing was done at the Prague Congress except denouncing reprints, but as a consequence reprints have been at a discount ever since, and there is hardly a respectable firm anywhere who likes to deal in them. Let us hope speculative stamps will be equally tabooed three years hence.

Then followed a somewhat idealistic paper on the question whether it would not be advisable to form a central place for examining stamps. Everyone recognised the immense importance of such a centre, but the difficulty and obstacles in its formation were not lost sight of, and it was decided to instruct the Carlsruhe Society to form a specified scheme for next year's Congress. A similar idealistic point was the one raised by the next speaker, on the question of issuing a normal catalogue. Here, again, the usefulness of such a book was well recognised, but the execution of such an idea had to be shelved, partly in consequence of the excessive expense of production, and partly because of the absolute impossibility to dictate to collectors not to pay more and not to pay less than such and such a price.

Finally a Committee was elected to consider the advisability of bringing all German Societies, and there are many hundreds, under one head in the shape of a Union. The delegates of all the chief Societies at Dresden, Gossmitz, Vienna, Hamburg, Strasburg, Gratz, Munich, Frankfort, were elected to consider the idea and report next year. The last thing to be done was the election of the town for next year's Congress for which Cologne was chosen. The usual votes of thanks to the Board were passed, thus finishing the official business.

We were all astonished when the day's labours were over, to think how nicely everything had gone and we had to confess to ourselves that the good results achieved this time were chiefly due to the absence of party obstruction. Let us hope next year, when we expect to see every Society represented, that the spirit of obstruction, will be then, as now, conspicuous by its absence. Business being over, the delegates, their wives, sisters, aunts, etc., spread themselves over the town, inspecting everything most minutely, admiring the scenery and leaving stamps alone till the evening, when a huge exchange had been planned by the Committee at which everyone was permitted to rook everyone else, and I am told everyone tried his best to follow instructions. It was past midnight when the special returned to Mannheim.

On Tuesday, no official business was transacted, but those delegates who had not gone home, formed a party and went to the Hardt mountains where we were invited by one of the most famous Rhine Wine Companies, to inspect their cellars—and their wines.

. . Our Forum. .

** * Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.*

"THE WAVE OF DISHONESTY."

SIR,—The wave of dishonesty that is sweeping over the philatelic world cannot but have a serious effect on Stamp Collecting generally, and I am pleased to see that you have taken the bull by the horns, and given publicity to this matter.

While the majority of collectors are so careless and trusting, dishonest persons will continue to find them an easy prey; but surely some means could be devised to put an end to the uncertainty that now exists as to whether such and such advertisement be genuine, or so and so be an honest dealer? Could not an efficient black list be published from time to time?

As Secretary of the Suburban Exchange Club, I am always happy to place such philatelic knowledge as I possess at the disposal of members, and to recommend any dealers that from personal experience, I know to be straightforward, and I feel sure that the Secretary of any other Exchange Club would do the same. As you are aware the Stamp Exchange Protection Society works somewhat in the same direction and does much useful work. But I contend that it is not enough for stamp thieves and swindlers to be warned off the course, so to speak. If a few of them could be made public examples of, and punished as they deserve, the others would be frightened and seek new fields for the exercise of their rascality.

Yours truly,

St. Alban's, August 15th, 1895.

H.A.S.

DEAR SIRS,—I was extremely gratified to read your spirited denunciation of these so-called "dealers," and I am only surprised that philatelists trust them as they do. I think they are themselves greatly to blame, especially the foreign dealers, as I have always found them anxious for business, and readily send goods on receipt of order without troubling to enquire into the stability of the parties in question. Another thing, it seems to be the idea, that if you have a few pounds, you have only got to open a shop or an office in a busy thoroughfare, and you are sure to make a fortune, relying on the chance of getting what are termed " hauls," but, as you state, this is a mistake. The time for that sort of thing is over. Stamp dealing is a *business*, and only hard work and experience are likely to meet with success, and the sooner would-be dealers find this out the better for themselves and for other people.

Yours, &c.,

London, 13th August, 1895.

T. A. E.

MR. MAURY ON ABYSSINIA.

DEAR SIR,—I cannot leave without any comment, the article in your honoured journal, "THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY," of 10th August, in which, after having studied and commented on an envelope addressed to Messrs. Whitfield King (from which you give a reproduction) you conclude that the Abyssinian stamps are worthless in the eyes of a philatelist.

I have made myself up to this day, the defender of these stamps, which are attacked by several English and Italian papers for political reasons. Have the kindness to note, first of all, that these stamps are not such locals as the locals of Germany and Russia,—available for only one certain town.

Ethiopia is not a town, but a large country where the post develops itself from day to day. The number of the Post Offices is not an argument for proving that the post exists, or not. Like all countries in their first attempt at a Postal Service, Abyssinia has only three offices. Is it not the same for the enormous territories of the Congo Free State, which

contains scarcely a dozen offices? Most of them have not even any importance, but that does not prevent people cataloguing and collecting these stamps.

Abyssinia wanted a long time ago to join the Universal Postal Union, but her bad relations with Italy, did not allow the Berne Office to admit it.

The case of these stamps is therefore just the same as that of the Afghanistan, Fumo, Kashmir Hind and Faridkot stamps, which you are far from removing from your collection. Look in the most recent catalogues and there you will find for these countries, stamps for Inland Postage and Foreign Postage. All are catalogued and collected, especially in England.

Between philatelists of different countries the relations have always been loyal and the discussion free. The defence could answer the attack. I therefore hope you will take note of these arguments, which are founded on truth.

Yours, etc.,

Paris, August, 1895.

ARTHUR MAURY.

THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

DEAR SIRS,—I wish to correct two slight errors in your issue of August 10th. Referring to the A.P.A. Convention you say, "at Clapton," it should be "Clayton." The President's announcement states:—"The Tenth Annual Convention of the Stockholders of the American Philatelic Association will be held at the Hubbard House, Clayton, Jefferson County, New York, on Tuesday, August 13th, 1895, and following days." The A.P.A. seems little known in England, and I should be very glad to see some particulars of it published. We have about 960 members, including about 100 foreign members. Of this number only about 20 are English. We have a Stock Fund of over \$1000, and Stamp Value \$22,649.78 now in circulation in the Sale and Exchange Department, so you see the A.P.A. is a real live concern.

Yours sincerely,

Worthing, Aug. 8th, 1895.

H. CLARK, A.P.A.

IN DEFENCE OF THE SMALL DEALER.

GENTLEMEN,—I have just perused your STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, of August 10th, 1895.—Therein you write—whoever has £20 worth of stamps and a £5 note to pay his first week's rent, can blossom forth as a full-grown stamp dealer. I daresay that may be true, but still, I do not think it right to print such things, as, I may tell you, that there are plenty of small dealers who are *strictly* honest, and I don't like to see the small stamp-dealers attacked in this manner.

Coelho, Come & Co.,—you cannot go by them; I always had a suspicion against Coelho myself—further I must remind you—in *every trade* there are *bad* people and *good* ones.

I only say this to defend the small dealers, as I am *only in a small way of business myself*, and I would not like anybody to doubt my honesty.

Yours, etc., R.M.

London, Aug. 12th, 1895.

Dealer in Foreign Stamps.

GENTLEMEN,—Having read in the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, your remarks on those who have the audacity to deal in stamps, and who at the same time have the misfortune of not having large money-bags, (Mushroom Dealers I think you call them). And, being what you would call a small dealer, with your permission I would write a few words in their defence, as I hardly think they receive justice at your hands. The pity is, that any of them should lay themselves open to your condemnation, by acting in any way dishonestly, still I have no hesitation in saying that honesty is not only known, but practised, even by small dealers. I fail to see that a man can only be honest according to the weight of his purse, but by your own shewing, it is very questionable if even all the Large Dealers are what they should be, seeing you state that prior to 1894, catalogues were published with a purpose, and prices in many cases put in deliberately wrong. Now, who publishes the Stamp Catalogues, is it the small dealer with little cash or the large dealers who have their pockets full of the needful dollars?

Anyone can answer this, as small dealers cannot afford to publish catalogues, and if prices were put in deliberately wrong it must have been to deceive the unwary collector, and also us poor small dealers, who have to purchase our little stock of stamps from these same gentlemen.

It seems to me from what you have written, that you are jealous of the small trade done by us, and that by calling our honesty in question, wish to damage us in the eyes of the stamp collectors. Dishonesty of all kinds is to be condemned but be fair, and just, even to your brethren the small dealers. Your excellent paper condemns all stamps issued for the purpose of making money, (and not necessary issues), but there is another kind of stamp that ought also to be considered unfit for collecting, that is the postmarked-to-order kinds. I would have all dealers to avoid them as I think they are a disgrace to philately.

JOHN JOHNSTON.

Answers to Correspondents.

** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.

P.E.F.—For obvious reasons we do not care to speak as to the standing of the firms you mention. You would do well to read our article on the formation of an Enquiry Bureau, appearing in this issue of the "S.C.F."

W. H. S. (Bradford) should send his Afghans to Mr. T. W. Cheveley (Cheveley & Co.,) 63 Chancery Lane, W.C., who is an authority on these stamps, and would doubtless be able to help W.H.S. in their classification.

CANUCK (Leeds).—Oxidisation necessarily affects the value of the stamps you mention deleteriously; and it follows of course that the removal of the oxidisation increases the saleableness of the stamp.

FISCAL (Buxton).—We are not very sanguine as to the future of fiscal collecting. Under the heading of "fiscal," one may put every stamp denoting government revenue, from a playing card wrapper to a deed stamp, and as you may imagine this opens a very wide field. Though we are always anxious to oblige all readers, we fear we cannot spare any space in the S.C.F. for the suggested article on "Fiscals."

T.L.P. (Sunderland).—Sorry we cannot advise you as to the value of coins.

—May we request all readers not to ask us to price stamps for them. This is information which can easily be obtained through any Catalogue and although we always like to oblige, we cannot possibly afford the time taken up by the reply of such queries.

BACK NUMBERS.

We have still Complete Sets left in Stock at the uniform rate of 14d. each, post free, but as we are running short of No. 3, 5, 10, 11, 17, we have raised the price to 3d. per copy for these numbers.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES. Pages of Two Columns.

For One Insertion—	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Page	5 0 0	Whole Page	1 0 0
Half Page	2 15 0	Half Page	2 5 0
Quarter Page	1 10 0	Quarter Page	1 5 0
One-Eighth Page	0 15 0	One-Eighth Page	0 12 6

Pages of Three Columns.

For One Insertion—	£ s. d.	For Six Insertions—	£ s. d.
Whole Column	1 15 0	Whole Column	1 8 0
Half Column	0 18 0	Half Column	0 15 0
Quarter Column	0 10 0	Quarter Column	0 8 6
One Inch	0 5 0	One Inch	0 3 6

TERMS:—Strictly Cash with Order.

Printed for the Proprietors, HARRY HILCKES & Co., LIMITED, by PARDY & SON, Philatelic Printers, 8, The Triangle, Bournemouth, and Published at 64, Cheapside, London.

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HILCKES, KIRKPATRICK & CO.
64, CHEAPSIDE,
LONDON, E.C.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,

Specialism is now the philatelic order of the day. Probably nine stamp collectors out of every ten are specially interested in the issues of some one country or group of countries. This being thus, we have endeavoured to set our sails to the popular breeze, by preparing a new and carefully-arranged set of

Approval Books for Specialists,

to the number of 51. By a reference to the Index given on this Circular you will see that the various countries are so grouped as to suit the most popular tendencies of up-to-date philatelists. The stamps are arranged in rows of six—one row for each variety—and provision is made for all known variations of watermark, perforation, etc.

We invite your careful perusal of the list, and shall be glad to hear which Book or Books would be the most likely to interest you.

Yours faithfully,

H., K. & Co.

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34	Argentine Republic Uruguay Buenos Ayres Cordoba
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 Cape of Good Hope—Woodblocks, 1d. and 4d., superb copies; and others.
 Canada—Perf. 6d., imperf. 6d., 7½d. (two copies), and 10d. (two copies, all unused and very fine), and others used.
 New Brunswick—3d., 6d. and 1s., unused and fine; 6d., used (four copies); 1s. do. (two copies); and the Connell stamp.
 Nova Scotia—1d., 3d., 6d. and 1s., unused and fine, 1s. used, and several 8½ cents.
 Great Britain—V R and 10d., oct., both unused, 2s. red-brown, £5, very fine, and 9d. hair lines, imperf.
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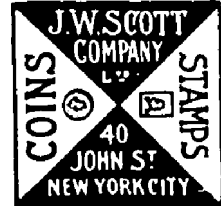
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[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 2d. for every six words. — Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

GIBBONS' NEW CATALOGUE, 3/6; unused 5d. Turks Island included; 5 lots, 15/-; 14 lots £2. Prepaid.—Homewood, Chichester. [2]

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CYCLISTS.—Advertiser would be glad to hear from Collectors to form Exchange Club, to meet on S.W. Roads. Send address for particulars.—STOKES, 13, Lindore Road, Battersea Rise. [1]

BRITISH EAST AFRICA. Wanted, all values, cheap. Also West Indies. Have unused 1d. Red Plate Numbers for Sale, cheap.—W. H. EARL, Newcastle, Staff. [1]

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THE
STAMP COLLECTORS'
FORTNIGHTLY
 PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 25.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies:

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. The City of London Philatelic Club. Rochdale Philatelic Society.
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Sheffield Philatelic Society.

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The above fees will cover enquiries for the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland. Enquiries for other countries require a Special Fee; a detailed list of which will appear shortly.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

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September 24th, 25th and 26th. Nov. 12th, 13th, 28th and 29th.
October 9th, 10th, 28th and 29th. December 12th, 13th and 31st.**M**ESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, in announcing the Dates, which have already been fixed to the end of the year, beg to draw attention to the following important Sale:—

September 24th, 25th and 26th—By Order of the Executors of MRS. H. CRAWSHAY and another, a Fine General Collection containing the following Rarities:—Great Britain, the V.R. post-marked, Oldenburg, complete fine, Saxony, 3 pfennige red, unused, Monaco, first issue, 5 francs, unused, Naples, Arms and Cross and 50 grano, fine, Spain, 1852 and 3, 2rls., unused, France, 1 franc orange, Zurich, 4 rappen (2 types), Tuscany, 3 lire and 6 crazie, Heligoland, first issue, &c., Ceylon, 8d., 9d. and 2/- imperf., 2r. 50c., Philippines, first issue, unused and fine, Cape wood blocks, rare Mauritius, Liberia, pair of 12 red imperf., surcharged 6c., Canada, 6d. green, fine, and 1c. on laid, British Columbia, 1 dollar, used, Newfoundland, 1/-, New Brunswick, 1- and Connell, Nova Scotia, 1-, United States, a very fine lot, including a superb used specimen of the first 90c. blue, Departmentals, &c., a grand lot of West Indians, including Nevis, 6d. litho, used, 6d. green, used, St. Christopher, 1d. in colour of 1/-, very rare error, Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA., St. Lucia, 1- red, unused, St. Vincent, 5-, wmk. star, unused, and 4d. on 1-, Tobago, 6d. ochre, unused, Barbados, 1d. on half 5- (2 types), Dominica, 1- CA., used, British Guiana, 1851, 4c. blue, superb, and Provisionals, Buenos Ayres, 3 pesos green, New South Wales, a fine lot of Sydney Views, 5d. green imperf., unused, South Australia, a pair of 2/- imperf., between, Western Australia, 2d. brown on red, rouletted, and others too numerous to mention.

Owing to the large number of applications the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, one month before the date of Sale. In order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. If special days of Sale are required, early notice should be given.

Valuations made if required.

Catalogues of all Sales and Terms can be had on application to

Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper,**35, OLD JEWRY, LONDON, E.C.**

(PHILATELIC DEPARTMENT).

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THE STAMP COLLECTORS

PORTNIGHTLY.

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,
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CONDUCTED BY
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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

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No. 25.—Vol. I.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1895.

ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	201
Philately at Home	202
City of London Philatelic Club	203
Between Ourselves	204
Our Prize Scheme	205
Under Bennett's Clock	206
Secret Marks of Switzerland	206
Philately Abroad	207
Our Forum	208
Answers to Correspondents	208

Philatelic Personalities.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN is not a philatelist. This is for the information of those American philatelic journals which have been crediting Queen Victoria with not only a passion for stamp collecting, but also a special fancy for all those stamps which bear her own head!

EQUALLY false is that other story about the Duke of York being willing, not to say anxious, to sell his collection. Even if His Royal Highness were tired of philately, which we are assured is not the case, it is unlikely that he would seriously contemplate a sale of his stamps.

In the first place the value of the Duke of York's collection has been stupidly exaggerated by imaginative Pressmen. It is a good collection, but not worth mentioning in the same breath as that of Ferrari or of many other prominent philatelists. Again, though the age is a democratic one, a prince of the blood does not spend his time selling things. Probably when His Royal Grace of York tires of stamp collecting his albums will go to join the Tapling Collection in the British Museum, unless, indeed, little Prince Edward of York develops a fancy for philately.

GENERAL BOGRAN, ex-President of Honduras, whose death was recently announced, was almost a philatelic personality. His portrait at any rate, graces all the Honduras stamps, envelopes, and postcards of the 1891 issue. General Bogran

was born in Santa Barbara in 1849. His father, Gen. Saturnius Bogran, was prominent in the wars that gave Honduras her independence. In 1878 General Bogran acted as the representative of Honduras at the Paris Exhibition, and soon after his return from that mission was elected President in succession to Marco Soto.

OF Mr. Lachlan Gibb, a leading Canadian collector, the *Montreal Star* tells us many things worth reading. Mr. Gibb's collection, which has taken thirty years in the making, he values at over £5,000. Mr. Gibb is a "generalist" himself, but advises young collectors to stick to Great Britain and colonies and the United States.

MISS FLORENCE TAPLING, who is to marry the Hon. Thomas Fremantle, eldest son of Lord Cottesloe, is a sister of the late lamented Mr. T. K. Tapling, M.P., and Philatelist.

MR. M. P. CASTLE is now Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., and don't you forget it. We pity the poor Brightonian who is caught in possession of a surcharging press or a perforating machine now!

By the way, has it never struck you as curious that Mr. M. P. Castle, with his peculiar initials, is not sitting on the parliamentary benches at St. Stephen's? Mr. M. P. Castle, M.P., would have a curiously tautological look, would it not? When Mr. M. P. Manfield, the great bootmaker, got in for Northampton some years ago, every paper in the kingdom had its little joke to crack about "the gentleman with the same initials back and front." Perhaps some day our only Castle will be soliciting votes down Brighton way, and then we shall "have our little bit on the coincidence," as the racing gents say.

THE American philatelic birds are fitting. Mr. Louis Levison has left; Mr. Albrecht and Mr. Sellschopp are on the eve of departure, and Mr. Howard K. Sanderson we expect will soon be making tracks for Massachusetts.

FROM philately the young Queen of the Netherlands has transferred her favour to cycling. During her recent stay in the metropolis she went in for a course of lessons at the premises of the Royal Cycle Company, and now, they say she's quite an expert wheelwoman.

Will you assist us? You can easily do so.

Philately At Home.

CHARLES J. PHILLIPS: HIS PHILIPPIC.

ACCUSTOMED as we are to dignified restraint and all round respectability in the columns of *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal*, it comes as a violent surprise to us to find in the end-of-August issue of that publication an unbridled attack upon the business methods, and even the commercial integrity, of no less a firm than Senf Brothers, of Leipzig. It is not necessary to state that this does not emanate from the pen of Major Evans, whose uniform fairness and courtesy are characteristic of "an officer and a gentleman." It is Mr. Charles J. Phillips who "slates" the great Leipzig house in the shape of a criticism of the Senf Catalogue for 1895, in his column of "Notes and News." Mr. Phillips, who holds tenaciously to the old-fashioned idea that a philatelic catalogue should be nothing more than a dealer's price list, opens by quarrelling with Messrs. Senf for pricing stamps which they possibly do not possess; and then goes on to say:—"Although an attempt has been made in *Senf's Catalogue* to price most of the varieties, yet we unhesitatingly state, as our firm conviction, that in hundreds and hundreds of cases the prices have been *knowingly* (the italics are Mr. Phillips's) placed far below the true value, in order to enable the publishers to purchase the stamps in question." Disagreeable words, these!—and Mr. Phillips knows it. "This (he goes on to say) is a strong indictment to bring against any firm, and we only do so now because we have ample proof of what we state, and we consider that it is quite time the German collectors woke up to the fact that this catalogue is not a reliable guide, and ceased to pin their faith to it as they have done for some years past."

Then follow a few statements of a personal character which we are necessarily not in a position to combat; after which Mr. Phillips selects a few instances of the alleged dishonest underpricing, and winds up his extraordinary article with the statement that Senf's Catalogue for 1895 is, in his opinion, "*absolutely useless and unreliable* as a guide to present market values of stamps."

Now, it is neither our duty nor our inclination to reply to this virulent attack, albeit our publishers are Sole British Agents for Messrs. Senf's justly-celebrated Catalogue. We will not talk of black pots and black kettles; nor will we allude to glass houses, and the gentle art of stone-throwing. We will content ourselves with pointing to the brilliant record of "Senf's Catalogue." In 1892, 16,000 copies of the book were sold; in 1893, 21,000 copies; in 1894, 25,000; and this year the same number, making a grand total for four years of 87,000 copies. We wonder whether Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogues, counting all its nine editions, can boast of such a total sale? That is all we wish to say. The question of *Mr. Phillips' motives* we will leave to the thoughtful philatelist.

Messrs. Senf Brothers, we hope, will shortly reply to Mr. Charles J. Phillips in the columns of the "S.C.F.," for it is only meet that their reply should be written and disseminated in the same tongue as the attack.

THOSE CLIPPERTON ISLAND GUMPAPS.

IN *Mekel's Weekly*, for August 1st, a tribute is paid to the "S.C.F.," for its prompt exposé of the Clipperton Island gumpaps. Although Clipperton Island is in constant communication with the Pacific coast of America, the first mention of these labels appeared in the *FORTNIGHTLY*. However, all honour to "K. Narca," the Californian correspondent of *Mekel's Weekly*, who directly he saw our announcement about these labels, set himself to discover the whole history of the stamps. And the result, very slightly abbreviated is here given:—

A search in the city directory located the firm of W. Frese & Co., at 419, California St., but it was only after repeated calls that Mr. Frese and his partner were found in.

Mr. Frese took the lead in the conversation that ensued. At first he was inclined to be wary, but as he warmed up in telling the story of his ingenious enterprise he threw all caution to the winds.

He stated that his firm were the agents of the Oceanica Phosphate Company, which owns Clipperton Island. The island lies in the Pacific Ocean, 1,800 miles from San Francisco and about 750 miles from Acapulco. It is in longitude 109 west, latitude 9 north. It measures about 9 miles in circumference, and is one vast field of guano, which is shipped, in sailing vessels, mostly to Europe, though some comes to San Francisco.

"At present," Mr. Frese continued "there are but a few men on the island, but we will have between one hundred and two hundred at work there later.

"Heretofore we have carried the mail for our employes, and have taken the chance of collecting for this service. We found it difficult in most cases to make them pay this charge, and to obviate this trouble in the future we decided to issue stamps which must be used to prepay postage by those sending mail to or from Clipperton Island. There are ten denominations in various colors, the values being as follows: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 25 and 50 cents, and \$1.00.

"Our rates are the same as those charged for foreign mail from the United States, viz., 5 cents per half ounce for first-class matter and 1 cent per two ounces for newspapers. On this basis we have at times carried as much as \$15.00 worth of mail matter on a single voyage of one of our vessels.

"We are now in negotiation with the postal authorities at Washington, with a view to arranging for a co-operative mail service with the United States."

Further inquiry elicited the information that about 15,000 stamps had been issued in all, the larger portion consisting of the 1c., 2c. and 5c. values. About 200 of the 25c. and \$1.00 had been printed, and about 300 of the 50c. The stamps are lithographed and were made in this city, Mr. Frese refusing to divulge the name of the lithographic firm.

At frequent intervals during this conversation, Mr. Frese expressed an apparently deep-seated curiosity to know where his interviewer had obtained the information regarding the proposed mail service and the issue of the stamps. His repeated questions on this point were evaded, and, finally losing patience and caution simultaneously he showed his hand by himself suggesting the answer to his question.

"Oh, I guess you heard about it from some stamp fiend."

This was answered by a question put by your correspondent in his most unsophisticated manner. "Do stamp collectors buy these for their collections?"

"Certainly," came the answer. Then came the unsolicited information that the stones from which the stamps had been printed had been destroyed.

It was learned from another source that the stamps had been offered to a local stamp dealer, and that he had refused to have anything to do with them.

Then "K. Narca" goes on to suggest that the S.S.S.S. should at once place the Clipperton Island labels on their official black-list; but as our readers know, this is already done.

GREAT BRITAIN'S NEWEST POSSESSION.

The island of Trinidad, on which the British flag has just been hoisted, to the great chagrin of Brazilian patriots, is, of course, the now celebrated Principality of "gumpap" fame. It is in mid-Atlantic, 700 miles from the coast of Brazil, and



is a little islet of volcanic rock five miles long and uninhabited. It is a great breeding-place for sea-birds like the gannets and cormorants, and is swarming with gigantic and hideous land crabs which will attack even man. Some queer phases have been witnessed in its history. There was a Portuguese penal settlement there until the end of the last century, and afterwards it was visited by pirates who left stories of buried treasure. So recently as 1889 an expedition left England under the lead of Mr. E. F. Knight to search for the pirates' hoard, but like its many predecessors it returned unsuccessful. There is a King of Trinidad—Baron Harden Hickey, a Frenchman of Irish descent, who, for a time, edited a paper in Paris, and was famous for his duelling propensities. A year or two ago he was shipwrecked on the Island of Trinidad, and at once decided to annex it for himself. Reaching New York he set up there the Chancellerie de Trinidad, and informed all the Great Powers of his intention to establish a Kingdom there, with himself as monarch. He had married the daughter of Mr. John H. Flagler, an American oil-king, so that he had plenty of funds with which to set up his throne. He had got a coat of arms for the new colony, issued postage stamps, invited colonists, distributed crosses of the Order of Trinidad, and styled himself James I. Some of the small South American Republics actually recognized the new State, but just as the King's arrangements were approaching completion, Great Britain, which had never shown the slightest interest in the island, quietly stepped ashore and annexed it. Thereat Brazil, which has been equally indifferent to it, becomes very anxious for it, so that, whatever the ending, Baron Harden Hickey will not reign in Trinidad.

ITALY WILL JOIN THE GUMPAP BRIGADE.

From all appearances the Italian Government is about to follow the example of other States, and to mark the national festival of the entry of the Italians into Rome by the issue of a new "historical postage-stamp." A million copies will be ready for sale on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the liberation of Rome in 1870. The design of the new stamp, which was entrusted to Professor Sezanne, is very elaborate and somewhat overcrowded for its size. In the upper half of the picture sits the figure of Italy, with the iron crown upon her head; she holds the sceptre in her right hand, and in her left the armorial shield of the House of Savoy. On the two steps of her throne are two inscriptions, the first of which originated with King Victor Emmanuel; and the second with the present King Umberto: (1) "In Rome we are, and in Rome we mean to stay"; (2) "Rome is intangible." In other sections of the postage-stamp are crowded a number of symbols—the she-wolf of Ancient Rome, the eagle of Savoy, profiles of the two modern Kings of United Italy, the Italian Crown, and the inscription postal stamp in honour of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the "Liberation of Rome," and the two dates, 1870 and 1895.

ST. ANTOINE, THE FISHES, AND THE FISHY "ST. ANTOINES."

More than one correspondent having expressed curiosity as to the particular virtues of St. Antoine of Padua, whose memory is being kept green by gumpaps, it may be worth while to mention that this particular saint is the hero of the legend about the preacher and the fishes. The fishes we are told came in shoals to listen to St. Antoine while the callous Portuguese turned a deaf ear to him. The philatelic fishes, in this age of suspicion and suppression, are not quite so ready to "bite"; and however appreciative the Portuguese may be in their treatment of the latter day St. Antoine—him with the gum on his back—the people of other nations are "callous" enough in all conscience.

IPSWICH LEADS THE WAY!

Ipswich is to have its Philatelic Exhibition. During the visit of the British Association, extending from the 11th to the 18th September, the interesting old county town will be *en fête*, and not the least of the attractions will be a grand show of stamps, which under the able and energetic auspices of Mr. C. Whitfield King, bids fair to achieve a marked success. The Exhibition will be held at Mr. King's house, which is already well known as possessing a room artistically adorned with a mosaic of unused postage stamps. Numerous promises of

support by exhibitors have been received by Mr. King from prominent collectors and other sources, and the *London Philatelist* is enabled to state that, from the Mauritius Post-Office stamps downwards, there will be on view a magnificent assortment of the rarest and choicest specimens extant. Several well-known collectors have expressed their intention of visiting the Exhibition, which will be open each day of the week, between the hours of eleven and six.

THE S.S.S.—A CORRECTION.

Our version of the last circular issued by the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps was slightly incorrect as regards the reference to North Borneo. We now give the correct text of the circular:—

In respect to paragraph 3 of the previous circular issued by the Society, in which it was stated that the newly-issued surcharges for North Borneo and Labuan, of 4, 10, 20, and 30 cents on 1 dollar red, "appear to be unnecessary," it was not intended to condemn them. It is considered only right to publish the following letter, so that Collectors and Dealers may use their own discretion in this case.

The British North Borneo Co.,

15, Leadenhall Street,

London, E.C., 19th June, 1895.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.,

Ipswich.

Dear Sirs,

In reply to your letter of the 15th inst., we beg to say that in consequence of the alteration in the primary rates of postage from North Borneo, approved by the Bureau of the International Postage Union, as following on the decline in the value of the dollar, it was deemed advisable, for the economic purposes of the Borneo Post Office, and for the convenience of the public, to have stamps of the denominations mentioned by you, and a surcharged issue was adopted to save the delay and expense of preparing new dies.

We are not philatelists, and the objection raised against the stamps, which arises apparently from a collectors point of view, is not one that we feel called upon to consider.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) BENJ. T. KINDERSLEY,

Secretary.

City of London Philatelic Club.

HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Philatelic Record, The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser, and The Stamp Collectors' Journal.*

From Germany: *Internationales Briefmarken-Offenblatt and Die Post.*

From Spain: *El Heraldillo Timbrologico.*

From the United States: *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, The American Philatelic Magazine, Philatelic Facts and Fallacies, and The Washington Philatelist.*

From India: *The Indian Philatelist.*

Auction Catalogues from Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper.

Mr. Forbes also thanks Messrs. C. H. Mekeel & Co. (St. Louis), for Parts II. and III. of their "Standard Catalogue of the World."

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strand Road, Bow, London E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings at Cossavella's Restaurant, 121, Cheapside, E.C.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Next meeting is on 12th September.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 7, 1895.

.. Between Ourselves ..

ALIAS: T. A. S. Quail, of Demerara, &c. As we stated in our last issue, we received on going to press a notification from the Home Office that the Government did not see its way to assist in this matter. We will now briefly explain what has been done so far. On Thursday, June 27th, we received a letter from Coelho saying that he had to leave that day for Edinburgh, and that if we had anything to tell him, a letter addressed to a surgeon at Edinburgh whose address he gave would reach him. Four days after that we had occasion to write to him. The letter came back after a tour of eight days duration, marked "no such address." This made us uneasy. We telegraphed, thinking that there might be some mistake, and that the telegraph boy might be more clever in locating the address; but with the same result. We now became suspicious, and made personal enquiries at his home. Very soon from milkman, baker's boy, and paper boy we ascertained that he had given out that he was going away for a fortnight and would be back on July 12th. However, as neighbours informed us that they were sure he had gone to New York, or at least to America, we pushed our enquiries further, and with the assistance of an obliging cabbie and half-a-crown, finally traced him to Southampton where he had taken a berth on the steamship "Paris," which fact is confirmed by a copy of the printed passenger list now in our possession. Still even then there was no reason to believe that Coelho had left with fraudulent intent, as so far no claims had come to hand. However, when on the 16th July his post-dated cheques to a considerable amount were not met by his bank, we found ourselves face to face with the fact that a huge fraud had been perpetrated. Enquiries we set on foot soon made assurance doubly sure. Claims came in from everywhere, one dealer claiming £155, another £118, still another £132. Various collectors claimed £30, £40, and many small items under £10, making so far a total of £800 and over. We then made up our minds to trace him, and were thoroughly successful. For many weeks we were in a position to lay our hands on Coelho at twenty-four hours notice. We now called a meeting of all the victims of the ingenuity of Mr. Coelho, or "Coelhode" as Mr. Jingle aptly puts it. This took place on August 7th, when nearly all the creditors met at our offices; and after a long consultation we came to the conclusion that to prosecute the man would cost something like £250 at the lowest estimate, and that it would be useless for the creditors to attempt it.

On the advice of our lawyers, who were present at the

meeting, it was decided to consult the Home Department, and a Committee consisting of Mr. Theodor Buhl, Mr. Oliver, from Messrs. Bright & Son, and Mr. Harry Hilckes, were elected to call upon the Public Prosecutor. After being most courteously sent from one office to another the Committee at last got into the right hands, and all particulars were taken down. It soon became apparent, however, that the Government would on no account bear the brunt of the prosecution alone. The Committee were informed that if the creditors would guarantee a sum of £100, the Public Prosecutor would consider the question. Thereupon the following letter was addressed to all the creditors:—

DEAR SIR,

TO TOMASSO COELHO.

At the meeting of creditors which took place yesterday, it was decided to depute Mr. Theodor Buhl, Mr. Oliver, of Messrs. Bright & Son, and myself to call upon the Home Secretary with a view of the Treasury Department taking up the case, as it was found that the extradition and prosecution of Tomasso Coelho would cost a considerable sum. This morning we called at the Home Office, and, on consultation with the Solicitor of the Treasury, we have been informed that there is a likelihood of the Government taking up the prosecution on condition that a certain amount of the expenses was guaranteed by the creditors. This amount was fixed at £100, which would mean about 12½% to 15% of your claim. Of course there is a possibility that property will be found in Coelho's possession on arrest, which, of course, would be for the benefit of the creditors. As the matter is of great urgency, will you be good enough to signify at foot that you agree to bear the expense to the amount mentioned.

Yours faithfully,

HARRY HILCKES.

I hereby agree to guarantee 15% off £ towards prosecution of Tomasso Coelho. (Signed)

With the exception of one dealer and one collector, everyone most heartily assisted the Committee in guaranteeing the amount. £79 was so guaranteed. Of this the Government was informed in due time, and their reply was most anxiously awaited. However as stated in our last number although we paid many visits to the officials, the Government did not see its way to assist and there the matter rests. Coelho is most carefully watched, and at the moment of publication we believe could still be arrested. However, there is a most peculiar clause in the Extradition Treaty between this country and the U.S.A. in which it is provided that a man can only be tried for the offence for which he has been extradited. The only offence for which Coelho is extraditable, so to speak, is the case of Messrs. Bright, which is larceny pure and simple. In all other cases it is only a question of a mere debt, which is not an extraditable offence. Suppose now, Coelho is arrested on a warrant for larceny, all the other cases could not be mentioned in court as evidence against him; and supposing he was acquitted he could not be arrested on leaving the court, as the extradition treaty provides that the Government should guarantee a safe conduct out of the country, failing the prosecution. It will therefore be seen that the evidence in favor of a successful prosecution is slender, and no doubt that was the reason why the Government did not like to incur the expense. All this unnecessary bother would not have been incurred if we had had a Philatelic Protection Association which was not a P.P.A. in name only.

We may mention here that we have written to the new Vice-President of the P.P.A., Mr. Douglas Garth, asking him for the names of the newly-elected officers, as we were hopeful that with a new combination of officers, an altogether different policy would be inaugurated; but our hopes were dashed to the ground. Mr. Douglas Garth saw fit not only to refuse to comply with our modest request, but stated in his letter "that he was not going to furnish the editors of this paper with more material for their vindictive pen," as he had been told that we had been continually attacking that august body. Mr. D. Garth had not even read our articles as he himself admitted in his letter. He only wrote from hearsay. This is quite characteristic of the previous actions of the P.P.A., and need not be further commented upon. Had the P.P.A. joined hands with us, we feel sure that not only would it not

have cost the P.P.A. much from their ample funds, but that Coelho would now be in prison. No one knew in this country that we knew the precise whereabouts of Coelho, and that every movement of his was watched for weeks. It is, however, plain that one firm alone could not conduct such a prosecution, and that miserable body with that ambiguous title is morally responsible for the fact, that Coelho managed to get out of this country, carrying large sums belonging to English collectors. *It is a fact that one member at least of the P.P.A. knew Coelho to be a swindler. If that member had done his duty, and given the benefit of his knowledge to the other members of the P.P.A., it would have been impossible for Coelho to manage that members of the P.P.A. could have given satisfactory references regarding him.* If our readers will thoroughly digest these facts, they will see how very dangerous to the welfare of collectors, is the miserable inactivity of the body that masquerades under the title of Philatelic Protection Association. H. H.

* * *

Now the season commences we must once more draw the attention of the Philatelic public to this moot subject. The discussion which took place last year in the columns of the FORTNIGHTLY has borne fruit so far that we have been able to issue a fairly true and accurate account of the public sales which have taken place during last season. This feature of the "S.C.F." was considered one which offered the most solid advantage to our supporters, and, as a matter of fact, the reports of the FORTNIGHTLY have been universally accepted as a true guide to auction prices. There is one thing, however, which we would like to impress upon the Auctioneers, and that is, whether it is not possible to weed out all Reprints and Forgeries from lots before put up for sale. If this were only done for, say six months, a very large number of these objectionable articles would be taken out of the market altogether. We are fully aware that Auctioneers have great trouble to make their clients agree with these terms, but I feel sure if the three or four Auctioneers in London would put in their conditions the following clause: that it be understood that no Forgeries or Reprints will on any account be included in lots, whether mixed lots or collections, we feel absolutely certain that it will not be long before these miserable parasites will be eliminated to a great extent. Surely it is in the interest of the Auctioneers to improve the tone of their sales, and nothing would help to do that so much than if they try to follow the whole in profession. H.H.

* * *

FROM "A Colonist of Natal" we have received a letter which, while it demands respectful attention as the contribution of one well qualified to speak, is yet rather loose in its logic. The letter refers to the *London Philatelist's* June article upon the unnecessary multiplication of postal varieties in South African States, and speaks of the article as "a most Pharaical attack," full of "Pecksniffian advice," and so on. There is scarcely any justification, we think, for all this thushness. Mr. Castle in the article mentioned spoke his mind, and spoke our minds too. Recent novelties from Natal have borne a strong taint of speculation and, if we may use the word, unnecessary. But, strangely enough, it is for Natal that our correspondent specially sticks up. "Natal," he says, "is made to act as a scapegoat for her neighbours." Poor Natal! One would think that if there is to be any talk of "scapegoats" in this matter one's sympathy should go to the colonies associated with Natal in the "negligence" Mr. Castle attributes to the postal administration of South Africa generally. There may be two opinions as to whether these surcharged labels from Natal and elsewhere are necessary, but it is quite certain that they should not be necessary. As to whose shoulders should bear the blame our correspondent is, we take it, as much in the dark as Mr. Castle, if not more so. Where the editor of the *London Philatelist*, ourselves, and our correspondent heartily join hands is in hoping for the good time coming, when British Colonies and Dependencies, by printing their own postal stationery, will avoid all possibility of calling the surcharging machine into requisition. P.C.B.

We beg to second the very excellent motion of Mr. Lewis Abenheimer, Vice-President of the Sheffield Philatelic Society. But it will be more in order if we first explain what that motion is. Briefly, Mr. Abenheimer wishes to confederate all Philatelic Societies, with a view to concerted action in the best interests of philately. But for pressure on our space we would gladly insert the admirable scheme our Sheffield friend sends us of the form the Confederation should take. There are debateable points about his proposition, but the central idea is wholly commendable. The Confederation would work for the general good—that is the most essential point. No question of personal aggrandisement or of undue benefits for any one Society could be entertained for a moment. There is not a doubt in our mind that the proposition will prove acceptable to the majority of English philatelists, but in our next issue we hope to publish the opinions of some of the secretaries of our leading Societies. P.C.B.

Our Prize Scheme.

To give our readers one more chance we hereby postpone the "latest date" for our grand prize competition to September 21st, next, on which day the "S.C.F." completes its first volume.

THE SPECIAL FEATURE OF THE COMPETITION

is that *everyone gets a prize*, provided he secures not less than six subscribers, which would be an easy matter to most readers. The following rules and general hints should be carefully perused by intending competitors:

(1) The subscriptions obtained must be each for a period of six months—twelve numbers, post free 1s. 6d.—and in every case payment must be in advance.

(2) Competitors need not wait until the time for the termination of competition to send in their lists, but may send in as soon as they get six subscriptions, enclosing at the same time 6s. cash in payment thereof.

(3) The competition is by no means restricted to those who subscribed to the *S.C.F.* by post. The reader who buys his copy at his newsagents has an equal chance with the postal subscriber.

(4) The subscriptions obtained must, of course, be those of *new* subscribers—that is of persons whose names have not yet figured in our subscription ledgers.

Now for the prizes, which will be awarded on the following scale:—All competitors obtaining six new subscribers (at 1s. 6d. for twelve numbers, post free), will be credited with

A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION

(twenty-six numbers) to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. We may mention here that in the case of a competitor being already a subscriber, his prize subscription will of course date forward from the expiration of his existing subscription.

All competitors obtaining twenty-four new subscribers on the same basis, will receive a prize of FIVE SHILLINGS cash, in addition to a year's free postal subscription to the *S.C.F.*

Finally, the competitor who books the greatest number of subscriptions with a period of eight weeks from this date will receive a

PRIZE OF £2 2s. CASH,

in addition to a prize of 5s. cash for every set of twenty-four subscribers comprised in his grand total. The winner of this top prize will also be credited with a year's subscription on his own account.

Now we think everything is clear; and we hope our readers will do their level best to double or treble our subscription list. The advantage ultimately will be theirs, for the better the support we get the better the paper we shall produce.

It will be our endeavour to *make the rewards proportionate all through*. Thus a competitor who secures more than six new names, but fails to reach the twenty-four will be rewarded proportionately.

it signifies that your Subscription has ceased.

All those who do not quite understand the particulars here given are invited to communicate with the Competition Editor, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C. To save time, querists are advised to enclose a stamped envelope, in which a prompt reply per post will be sent.

... Philatelic Events ...

FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING SEPT. 21ST.

All News for this column must reach the office first post on Wednesday previous to date of publication.

Auction Sales.

Sept. 9.—The London Philatelic Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 & 64, Chancery Lane, E.C., at 5.30 p.m.

Sept. 19.—Mr. Wm. Hadlow, at 13, Warwick Court, at 6 p.m.

Tapling Collection.

The following countries are now on view in the King's Library, British Museum: St. Vincent, Tobago, Trinidad, Turks Islands, Virgin Islands, Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone.

City of London Club.

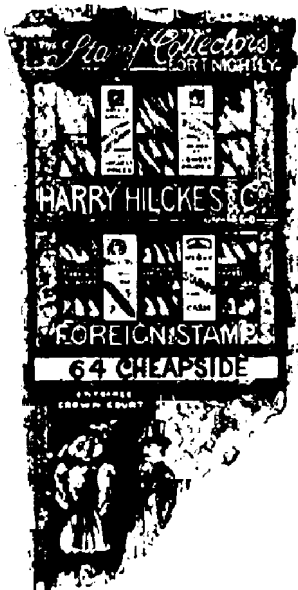
Fortnightly Meetings at 121, Cheapside, Cossavella's Restaurant, every Thursday, at 7.30 p.m. Next Meeting, Sept. 12th. No Meeting, Sept. 19th.

London Philatelic Exchange.

Sept. 10.—121, Cheapside, E.C., Cossavella's Restaurant.

Under Bennett's Clock.

THE "EXACT" PERFORATION GAUGE.



IN another column I give particulars of a new perforation gauge which we have just published. It differs from the ordinary perforation gauge in many ways. In the first place, we have added the quarters; many will perhaps say that it is unnecessary to do this, that no one wishes to measure, say $11\frac{1}{4}$ and so on. My reply is simply this, I do not wish people to distinguish say $12\frac{1}{4}$ and $12\frac{3}{4}$, but the measurement will be found most useful in detecting false perforations. For instance, when the Bavarian 12kr. perf. were forged some three years ago, I had occasion to measure the forgery and the genuine stamps most minutely, and found that whilst the forgery measured 12 exactly the genuine only measured $11\frac{3}{4}$, although it was generally considered that the genuine measured also 12. I

have measured many copies and found invariably the same result. Agents who wish to sell the gauge will please apply for wholesale terms which are arranged on a liberal scale.

OUR "INTERNATIONAL" 26 ALBUM.

We have had so many enquiries from time to time for an Album without illustrations, well guarded, well-bound and on good paper to sell at the above price, that I have at last decided to put a book on the market which will answer all requirements. It is much larger than the usual run of 2/6 albums, being $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. \times $9\frac{1}{2}$ in. It is printed on very good paper and contains 208 pages. There is no advertisement matter at the back. Wholesale terms can be obtained at our office on application.

OUR "APPROVAL" SERIES.

Is the last number of the "S.C.F." we put a circular containing details of four approval series; we have been absolutely inundated with enquiries for these books. Those who have been disappointed at not obtaining a prompt reply, will please understand that their application has been duly noted and that the books will be sent in rotation as they are arranged. To facilitate prompt despatch, I would esteem it a favor if these books are returned to us as soon as possible.

OUR ENQUIRY BUREAU.

On the front page of cover, details of terms will be found. We have had a good many opinions expressed that we shall be unable to fulfil our promise, that we can give an honest and satisfactory reply. To these I can only say, give the Bureau a fair trial and if we do not come up to the expectations of our clients it is then time enough to criticise. We have made the charges low, in fact as low as it was possible to make them as we wish everyone to try it, and to try it often.

The Secret Marks of The Stamps of Switzerland—1843-1854.

[This article was first published in 1893 by A. Larich, of Munich; the author, Freiherr C. v. Girsewald has kindly revised the German work for the special benefit of the readers of the "S. C. F."]

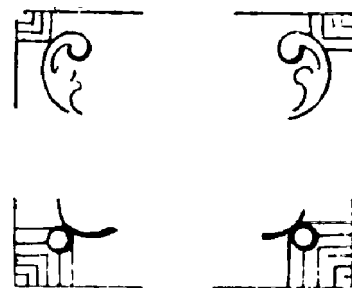
TRANSLATED BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 196.)

2. Upper right corner. The horizontal frame line is drawn a little too far, making a projection resembling now a thick stroke and now a dot, but which is always there in original specimens. The arrangement of the lines can easily be seen in our illustration. There is no horizontal line corresponding to the second vertical one. The apex of the angle formed by the next couple of lines is completely covered by the arabesque.

3. Lower left corner. The horizontal and vertical lines here form perfect squares; the first three of them are complete; the ball-shaped end of the arabesque touches the fourth one, and the fifth square encloses the ball completely. The first three squares show, projecting from their innermost angles, little lines; they are very short and directed diagonally towards the centre of the stamp.

4. Lower right corner. In this corner the frame lines in



meeting form a distinctly visible dot. The first horizontal line stands alone; the second forms a rectangle with the first vertical line; the third horizontal line stands again alone; the fourth forms another rectangle with the second vertical line; the arabesque does not touch this second rectangle; the next lines touch the ball-shaped end of the arabesque, while the next ones enclose it completely without touching it, resting as they do on the curve of the arabesque itself.

5. The lower part of the letter P in the word Poste and the E of the word Locale are slightly touched by one of the points of the arabesque. That point which touches the P curves itself quite sharply, ending in a beak-like point.

6. The thin frame line of the stamp is not very decidedly drawn, but shows many interruptions.

We have mentioned further up a successful counterfeit. In it the drawing is perfect, but the arrangement of the lines in the two lower corners is wrong; in the lower left corner the first vertical line is missing; the position of the line is the same as that of the right corner. The projecting point on the upper right corner looks a little longer. The letter P is indeed touched by the point of the arabesque, but this is not so sharply curved and does not so much resemble a beak. The frame line surrounding the stamp is strongly drawn and shows no interruption. The many other counterfeits cannot compare with this one, which is of a quite recent date; the position of the lines in all corners is always wrong; the inscriptions are printed in much too thin letters; the drawing of the arabesque is wrong; the whole appearance is blurred, while the originals have a sharp and very cleanly cut appearance.

December, 1850.

3. 5 centimes, black and red.

This is the so-called Neuchatel Stamp. It has a quadrangular shape and measures 23.5 mm. in height and 18.3 mm. in width.

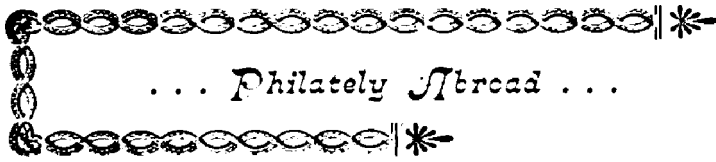
If we look at the arabesque which surrounds the design of the stamp we can plainly see over the L in the word "Locale" an 8.

The s of the word Centimes is not straight, but leans toward the right.

In the lower left corner there is an arabesque looking like a headless 5. 5

In order to decide of the genuineness of this stamp, it is desirable to compare it with the original with special reference to the arabesques which in counterfeits show decided differences. If an original cannot be procured, the observation of the above rules will suffice.

(To be continued).



INDIAN POST OFFICE BUSINESS.

FROM the Indian Post Office Report for 1895, just issued, it is evident that great progress is being made in Indian postal administration. The number of letters carried during the period covered by the report amounted to a total of over three hundred and seventy millions. Out of this number four and a quarter millions had to be dealt with by the Dead Letter Office. There is a surprising increase in the foreign transactions of the Department. The number of letters and post cards exchanged between India and the United Kingdom has doubled in the past twenty years, while the number of Newspapers and packets have also doubled in the past sixteen years. Foreign parcels generally show an increase of over ten per cent, during last year and more than eighty per cent. of the traffic is with Great Britain alone; the business having doubled itself in a little over nine years.

PHILATELISTS PETITION THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

ONE is inclined to feel dubious always about petitions to Governments from philatelists. In the official mind the stamp collector ranks as very small beer and has no *locus standi* at all, don'tcher-know. He's a mere crank and not to be encouraged. Still, it is possible that the U.S.A. Government will deign to lend favourable ear to the plaint of two of the leading American Philatelic Societies, who "humbly pray" that newspaper and postage-due stamps may be sold to the general public at price value. At present the American stamp collector has to resort to all sorts of strange devices to procure sets of these stamps, which are no more obtainable by the ordinary American citizens than "I.R. Official" stamps are by members of the great B.P. Looked at in this light there is perhaps little to be said for the request of the New Yorkers—for what English Government, tory or radical,

would permit "I.R. Official" to be sold over the post office counter?—but we suppose the two cases are scarcely analogous.

WILL PHILATELISTS LABEL THEMSELVES?

Is America there is a scheme a-foot to induce all who follow the philatelic craft to ticket themselves that all may know them. A badge is suggested—something pretty and cheap. It would, we suppose, take the form of a rosette or perhaps a mere button. Anyhow, one would have to guard against being mistaken for a cabman or a bus conductor. Minor objections apart, however, the suggestion is not a badge—that is, bad one. A neat, unobtrusive badge, easily recognisable as the outward and visible sign of the philatelic spirit, would perhaps lead to many *al fresco* friendships. It would be another link forged in the chain of philatelic freemasonry.

STAMP MENDING REDUCED TO A SCIENCE.

MR. HOWARD K. SANDERSON, describing in the *Boston Stamp Book*, a visit to the philatelic bourse in Paris, characterises that resort as "the head quarters of the mended stamp." So cunningly are some of the stamps patched up that sharp indeed must be the eyes that would detect them. "The natural snavity of the Frenchman," says Mr. Sanderson, "comes into perfect play to help the deception, but if you are sharp enough to suggest that a stamp be placed in water and tested, presto! he has no more use for you and is gone in search of a new victim. Here also the bogus stamp has its innings and many are the copies which are sold to the confiding and not well posted public."

THE PHILATELIC DAILY IS COMING.

DR. C. W. PARKER, a Connecticutian, ups and says that on such and such a date he will bring out the first number of a daily newspaper devoted exclusively to philately. It is unfortunate that C. W. P. omits to mention how many other numbers he will bring out, after the "first." Most likely it is all a joke, but as C. W. P. is playing it by means of full page advertisements, it must be said that he is "doing it handsome."

POSTAGE STAMPS FOR THE POPE.

THE *Osservatore Cattolico*, of Milan, says that a Catholic society in that city has caused to be printed a large number of gummed stamps, containing the effigy of Leo XIII., in gold and colours, with the inscription: "20 September, 1895, W. Leone XIII., W. Italia." They are intended to be affixed on the day mentioned, to letters, postcards, papers, and anything else, as a Catholic counter-demonstration to the anti-papal rejoicings throughout Italy.

STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ABROAD.

THE inland letter postage in Mexico has just been reduced from 10c. to 5c.

It is said that the set of stamps in preparation for the Brussels Exhibition is to cost the government 50,000 francs.

The *New York Herald* contains an article advocating the issue of a three-cent double delivery stamp, that is, a stamp one half of which is to be placed on the envelope and the other half to be enclosed for the return postage. This would virtually reduce the postage on all letters to one-and-one-half cents.

In many of the foreign papers we note inquiries relative to an English publication called the *Stamp Chronicle*, some of them implying irregularity (or worse) in the conduct of the journal mentioned. Does any reader of the "S.C.F." know anything about an English paper called the *Stamp Chronicle*?

An attempt is being made to obtain the re-trial of John Hooper, the well-known Canadian collector, who is in goal for an attempt to murder his wife.

From the flood of new American stamp Journals one may safely weed out the *Boston Stamp Book*, as one that has come to stay. As regards printing and get up it is indeed a "thing of beauty," and if the contents be kept up to the present excellent level the *B.S.B.* will prove "a joy for ever."

"Where," asks a little American philatelist, "do they bury all the dead letters?"

Between Los Angeles, Cal., and Avalon, a town on the little island of Catalina, there exists a systematic Pigeon Post.

You may have noticed that when a man comes into our advertising columns he stops in.



Our Forum.



**** Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.**

THE SORT OF LETTER WE LIKE TO GET.

DEAR SIRS,—I have much pleasure in renewing my subscription to the "S.C.F.," which I consider a most excellent paper. I hope you will continue to show up, without fear and favour, whatever abuses and frauds in connection with philately you may be able to lay your hands upon.

Yours truly,
G.H.R.

Wragby, August 26th, 1895.

NATAL THE SCAPEGOAT.

DEAR SIRS,—Under the heading of "Speculative Issues Natal," the *London Philatelist* for June contains a most Pharisaical attack on the South African Colonies and States for being "culpably negligent with regard to their stamp supply." Natal is made to act as a scapegoat for her neighbours. The writer launches out as follows:—

"In these days of rapid communication there is no occasion for running out of the stock of stamps. A Colonial Postmaster in our opinion is neglectful and censurable in (1) allowing any stamp to run out of stock; (2) in creating any provisional stamps, except in large quantities, and all exactly similar; (3) in promoting the abnormal sale of any provisional issue."

The writer concludes by saying it is high time that a stop was put to the "freaks upon currency, i.e., unused postage stamps."

It is all very well for London Philatelists to wax indignant over what they call South African negligence, but until stamps are printed in the Colony there is every liability of the supply temporarily running short. As regards the Transvaal it has always been the custom to keep a sufficient supply in stock, as, on the whole, consignments have arrived at very regular intervals. During the past couple of months, however, business has increased in an unprecedented manner, and the demand for stamps of all descriptions has surpassed the most optimistic calculation. Hence the necessity of surcharging.

If the writer in the *London Philatelist* possessed but the faintest idea of South Africa, he would be able to understand the position of the P.M.G., and would not have been so ready with his Pecksniffian advice.

I may add that the surcharged stamps have been submitted to the Postmaster-General and are now issued. The 2½d. one will have to do duty for the penny stamp, whilst the 6d. revenue will be used for postal and telegraphic purposes.

Hawick, Yours, etc.,
August 20th, 1895. A COLONIST OF NATAL.

THE WAVE OF DISHONESTY.

GENTLEMEN,—I have read with considerable interest your article on current philatelic morality, and agree, in the main, with what you say. But when you go on to affirm that references are a miserable farce, I must gently but firmly dissent; at least if you condemn the system generally, as I take it you do.

Take my own case, I am a collector of several years standing, and, although I have no large banking account, have done many pounds worth of business with the London trade. This business has been done on references pure and simple, yet I venture to think that nobody has any reason to complain of my conduct. The fact is the trade rarely takes the trouble to test the references given, as you yourselves admit. If they only did this much less swindling would occur. A man may have a big banking account and yet be a rogue; while people who are only prepared to spend a moderate amount, and who, possibly, have not £50 in cash to bless themselves with, may be thoroughly trustworthy.

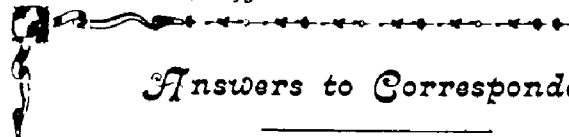
The test, then, is not in the size of the balance at the bank, but in the reputation the individual concerned may have for honesty and strict uprightiness.

Still I have not a word to say against the formation of the Inquiry Bureau but wish it every success and a long career of usefulness. In my own case, indeed, I shall find the Bureau extremely to the point. Such an authority as the one proposed would at once set at rest any doubts dealers might have when customers unknown to them applied for stamps on approval. Only recently, in asking for a selection of stamps, I mentioned that I was a member of the I.P.U. This was not considered a satisfactory reference by my dealer, and when we remember that Tomasso Coelho and Harold Come were both members of that Association it needs no further argument to prove that the Inquiry Bureau will fill a long felt want.

While I am writing I should like to say that the suggestion made by your interesting contributor, "Alfred Jingle," re a Philatelic Bourse, or something like one, for London, meets with my hearty approval. I come to London two or three times a year and on every occasion strongly feel the absence of such a place. As things are now, all I can do is to call at the various stamp shops, more especially at your publisher's, and pick up any bargains and information which I may be able to get. A Philatelic Bourse would distinctly "fill the bill."

Yours faithfully,
H. W. A.

Bradford,
August 26th, 1895.



Answers to Correspondents.

**** We shall at all times be glad to answer any questions which relate in any way to Philately. But to make the work of our Correspondence Editor as light as possible, readers are requested:—(1) To write on one side of the paper only; (2) to make their communications as brief as possible; and (3) in the event of asking more than one question to number their queries, a, b, c, and so on.**

H. J. T. (London) and others.—We have recently had small books submitted to us containing a gaudy selection of Japanese stamps. We are informed that they are sold by curiosity dealers, and as far as we have seen are worth very little indeed. True, they are sold for 4½d. each, but as they are of a fiscal nature they are hardly worth that sum to postage stamp collectors.

C.J.M.L.—Rules of your "British Colonial Stamp Exchange Club," to hand. With regard to what you say re references, you will find it to your advantage to avail yourself of our new Enquiry Bureau, fully advertised on the front cover of this issue of the "S.C.F."

—May we request all readers not to ask us to price stamps for them. This is information which can easily be obtained through any Catalogue and although we always like to oblige, we cannot possibly afford the time taken up by the reply of such queries.

BACK NUMBERS.

We have still Complete Sets left in Stock at the uniform rate of 1½d. each, post free, but as we are running short of No. 3, 5, 10, 11, 17, we have raised the price to 3d. per copy for these numbers.

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Philatelic . Enquiry . Bureau.

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I beg to enclose a remittance of 12/6 being:

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Yours truly,

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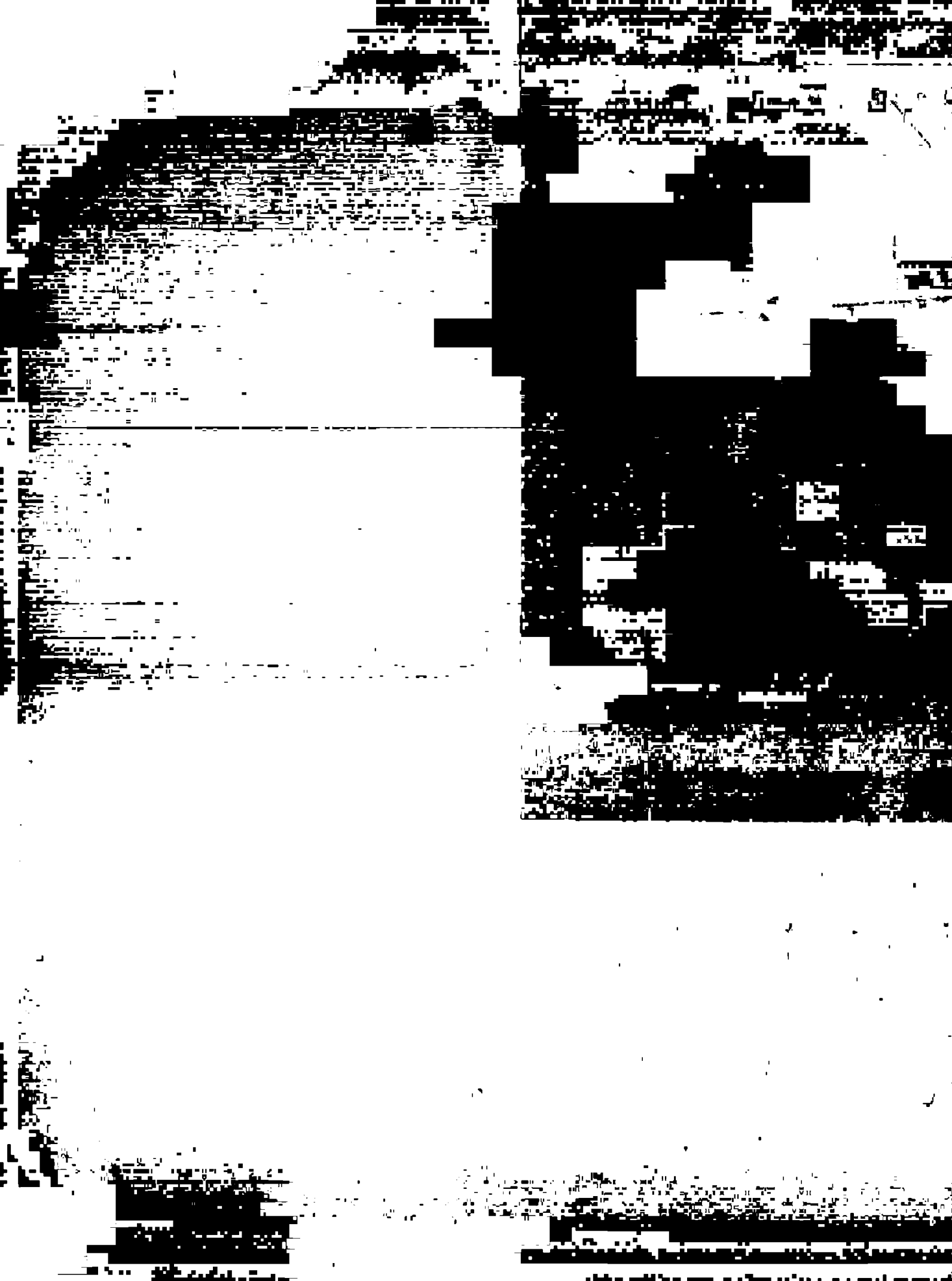
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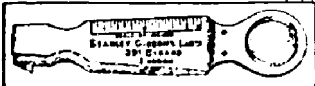
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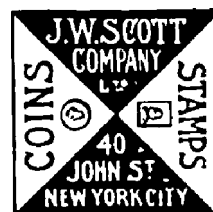
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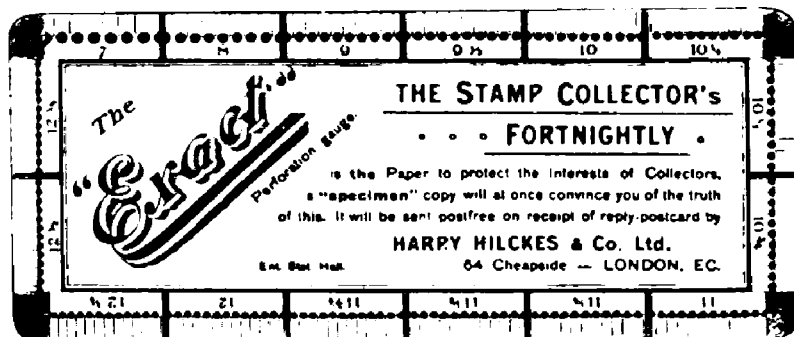
- 1d. red, imperf., coloured postmarks.
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- Tasmania—1d. blue, 4 singles, and a strip of 4, &c.
- Victoria—6d., beaded oval, orange, 3 copies.
- New Zealand—2d., pelure, imperf., unused, and others.
- New South Wales—A fine lot of Sydney Views, &c.
- Bahamas—1d., imperf., unused, and another used, fine.
- Natal—1st issue, including 9d. unused, &c.
- Mauritius—A superb lot of the 1d. and 2d. post paid, including several fine pairs, and a very fine block of four of the 2d., early state of plate, all on pieces of original; also 1d. and 2d. Greek border, magnificent copies, and others.
- Saxony—1st two issues, complete, unused.
- Buenos Ayres—1st issue, 1 peso brown, 3p. green and others.
- Newfoundland—A fine lot, and entire sheets of the Lake issue.
- Switzerland—4 cent Vaud, a superb copy on original, &c., and Basle, 2½r., fine.
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No. 26.—Vol. I. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1895. ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. The City of London Philatelic Club. Roohdale Philatelic Society.
Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Sheffield Philatelic Society.

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September 24th, 25th and 26th. Nov. 12th, 13th, 28th and 29th.

October 9th, 10th, 28th and 29th. December 12th, 13th and 31st.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, in announcing the Dates, which have already been fixed to the end of the year, beg to draw attention to the following important Sale:—

September 24th, 25th and 26th—By Order of the Executors of Mrs. H. CRAWSHAY and another, a Fine General Collection containing the following Rarities:—Great Britain, the V.R. post-marked, Oldenburg, complete fine, Saxony, 3 pfennige red, unused, Monaco, first issue, 5 francs, unused, Naples, Arms and Cross and 50 grano, fine, Spain, 1852 and 3, 2rls., unused, France, 1 franc orange, Zurich, 4 rappen (2 types), Tuscany, 3 lire and 6 crazie, Heligoland, first issue, &c., Ceylon, 8d., 9d. and 2/- imperf., 2r. 50c., Philippines, first issue, unused and fine, Cape wood blocks, rare Mauritius, Liberia, pair of 12 red imperf., surcharged 6c., Canada, 6d. green, fine, and 1c. on laid, British Columbia, 1 dollar, used, Newfoundland, 1/-, New Brunswick, 1/- and Connell, Nova Scotia, 1/-, United States, a very fine lot, including a superb used specimen of the first 90c. blue, Departmentals, &c., a grand lot of West Indians, including Nevis, 6d. litho, used, 6d. green, used, St. Christopher, 1d. in colour of 1/-, very rare error, Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA., St. Lucia, 1 - red, unused, St. Vincent, 5 - wmk. star, unused, and 4d. on 1/-, Tobago, 6d. ochre, unused, Barbados, 1d. on half 5/- (2 types), Dominica, 1/- CA., used, British Guiana, 1851, 4c. blue, superb, and Provisionals, Buenos Ayres, 3 pesos green, New South Wales, a fine lot of Sydney Views, 5d. green imperf., unused, South Australia, a pair of 2/- imperf., between, Western Australia, 2d. brown on red, rouletted, and others too numerous to mention.

Owing to the large number of applications the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, one month before the date of Sale. In order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. If special days of Sale are required, early notice should be given.

Valuations made if required.

Catalogues of all Sales and Terms can be had on application to

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With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."
CONDUCTED BY
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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:
The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.

No. 26.—Vol. I. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1895. ONE PENNY.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Philatelic Personalities	207
Gossip of the Hour.. .. .	210
Philately at Home	210
City of London Philatelic Club	211
Between Ourselves	212
Stamp Show at Ipswich	213
Under Bennett's Clock	214
The Truth about Seebecks	214
Our Forum	215

Philatelic Personalities.

THE "Veteran Australian Philatelist," as M. David H. Hill is called by his friends, is not such a veteran after all. He is only forty-four, Mr. Fred Hagen's journal tells us. Still at forty-four one may well be a veteran philatelically, for the hobby is little more than thirty years of age.

MR. HILL's reminiscences make tantalising reading. Thirty years ago he was buying old Australian stamps at a few pence a dozen, and exchanging them with dealers in Europe for such foreign stamps as he did not possess. In 1883, Mr. Hill had a collection of 8,000 stamps, *all unused*, including many things which are now obtainable only by big dealers and millionaire collectors.

FINDING, even then, that generalism was too large an order the father of colonial philately sold his foreigners, but for what price is not stated. In 1887, his Australians,—2,000, all unused—shared the same fate, Mr. Hill keeping back only a few strongly-fancied Victorians. Nowadays, he divides his attention between Victorian adhesives and unused post-cards of everywhere. The list of his best Victorian stamps as given in the *Australian Philatelist*, is calculated to make even the present holders of the famed Castle collection feel covetous.

MR. RALPH W. ASHCROFT, well known some two or three years ago as a philatelic writer, seems now to have taken to journalism altogether. We read in our *Mekel* of his appoint-

ment to the editorship of the *Clothier and Furrier*, a Transatlantic trade journal of some prominence. The editor of the racy but short-lived *Long Island Philatelist* is still a philatelist, but now that scribbling is a business with him he is not so ready to write. 'Twas ever thus. It will be news, by the way, even to some of Mr. Ashcroft's compatriots, to learn that their only Ralph is by parentage, if not by birth, a Lancashire man. His people came from Oldham, or "Owdham" as they pronounce it in the cotton county.

It seems that Mr. C. W. Parker, of Meriden, Conn., is quite serious in his determination to start a *daily* newspaper appertaining to philately. It will consist of four to eight pages daily, and ten on Saturdays; and the subscription rate for the United States will be \$3 per annum.

WHATEVER Mr. Parker may lose over his venture—and that must depend simply upon how long he hangs out—he will at least have gained the distinction of being the first in this particular field. True, Mr. E. W. Plummer, of Colorado, announced his intention to produce a philatelic daily last year; but *his* first number never saw the light.

MR. PARKER's paper will be called the *Daily Philatelist*. But wherefore? What's wrong with *Philatelic Daily*? It is not the philatelist that is daily, but the daily that is philatelic.

SAYS the *Daily Chronicle*, the stupidest of all our daily papers: "The young Tsar of Russia does not allow the cares of State to lessen his zeal as a philatelist, as witness this pretty tale from Hamilton, Ontario. A grandson of the Hon. Isaac Buchanan, who lives at that lakeside city of Canada, recently sent his Imperial Majesty a choice collection of Canadian and United States stamps, and begged an exchange of courtesies. He is now the proud possessor of a collection of Russian stamps sent to him direct by the Tsar." What a tissue of journalistic taradiddles, to be sure!

THE present Czar of all the Russias has no interest whatever in philately; and the story of the little Ontario boy is nothing more than a re-hash of that other yarn about the Wisconsin lad who entered into correspondence with the Czar's august father with precisely similar results. We are getting very tired indeed of the small-boy philatelist who writes begging letters to big pots and mighty potentates.

Will you assist us? You can easily do so.

Gossip of the Hour.

BY ALFRED JINGLE.

I HAVE heard of the old gentleman coming out of his own high temperature regions to rebuke sinners, but I am inclined to think that Mr. Seebeck posing as "a loyal and ardent philatelist," licks the old gent's performance into a cocked hat.

As I understand the business, Seebeck says to his governments, "Look 'ere! You let me engrave, print, and supply your postage stamps, with a liberal provision for remainders, and I'll do the trick cheap—in fact, just for the remainders; only, of course, there must be a new series every year." Then, he says to collectors: "Look 'ere, pals, I've arranged a nice series of postage stamps, on the cheap, for you, seein' as 'ow I'm an ardent philatelist myself. You can have 'em at a mere nominal figure."

Now, he says to the S.S.S.S., quite right of you to put down Speculative Issues—even mine; only you must arrange with my Governments that they won't give any other chap the job.

Well, Mr. Seebeck, I am afraid will have yet to learn that the Committee of the S.S.S.S., however naturally desirous they may be to get rid of the Seebeck flood, are powerless to do any bargaining with his Governments, and even if they were in a position to approach the jobbing states they probably would not be able to persuade themselves that any agreement that might be arrived at would be worth the paper on which it might be written.

The S.S.S.S. can afford to wait the natural result of their policy. If, as most of us believe, they will, before long, be in a position to declare an effectual and general boycott of speculative issues, offending states and speculative engravers of the "loyal and ardent" type will have to make terms to be re-admitted to the class of collectable States, or forego their revenues from the sale of stamps to collectors.

Still, let me confess that Mr. Seebeck's offer to cancel his contracts, on the condition that he is assured they will not be transferred to a rival firm, has an apparent element of self sacrifice in it, which may be genuine, and I would assure him that there is no shade of personality in the attack that is made on his system. It is the abominable innovation that passes current under his name to which we object—as a personality he is quite unknown to us. When he speaks of "personal animus," he talks absolute nonsense. Of him as a person we know nothing, but we do and will condemn the execrable system of jockeying the postal issues of certain states for his own personal profit, for the simple reason that he is jeopardising the best interests of philately. We do not want any new issues, nor pretty designs, that are not the natural outcome of genuine postal needs. Every stamp that is produced outside of those needs is a distinct injury to our hobby. In our revolt against speculative issues we are endeavouring to turn the tables, and we do not intend to be content till we have got rid of every offender on the list.

Some of the work is bound to be a little bit painful. Some toes will have to be pinched that do not expect to be pinched; but, all the same, they will have to be pinched, before the end comes. We are on the job, fair and square now, and the day of reckoning is safely approaching, when no quarter will be mated out to friend or foe that dares to touch the unclean thing. Collectors and dealers who have put their shoulders into this business are not blind, and are not likely now to be turned from their purpose.

I note that you refer to Mr. Theodor Buhl as a critic of the S.S.S.S. Bah! If he had been made President, or even a committee man, do you suppose he would snarl at the business? Anyhow, criticism will do no harm. Let us all criticise. The more we cry out for action the more we shall get you may be sure. Go for the bogies, expose them, prove their character, and you will help in the general slaughter of the varmints. Don't be angry, or jealous, if a Buhl or two do roar a bit.

One thing we may be thankful for and that is, the prompt publicity that the S.S.S.S. give to their decisions. In that respect they are an agreeable contrast to the P.P.A., where

the order of procedure seems to have been "pass the B & S., and keep it dark, for mum is the word."

So the auctions are to begin in full flood in this blessed month of September, and what a choice of gems we are already promised. Already I have had three catalogues of early sales. By a curious coincidence Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, and Mr. Hadlow, announce their "sixtieth" sale. In the competition for business, Messrs. Cheveley & Co., offer "a reduction in terms," but, it is not so much a reduction in terms for selling that the seller wants as a tip top price for the articles sold, and collectors and dealers are beginning to note where the best prices are to be had, and, per contra, where things go for a song.

One thing we want in connection with our stamp auction, and that is a good analysis of the prices of each season. I know all the objections which are to be urged against making too much of auction prices, yet there is no gainsaying the fact that there is real value in the *average* price of a frequently auctioned rarity.

Talking about prices, friend Phillips has been jumping on Senf with a vengeance, and, of course, his Salisbury Echo has followed suit. But after all what does it amount to? It simply proves that in regard to rarities the best authorities will differ. Any collector who has gone through the stock books made up for advanced collectors, and made notes of the prices, could produce quite as striking contrasts as to prices. It is, however, a serious thing for one leading dealer to charge another with deliberately falsifying prices.

You have been going for a certain class of small dealers, and none too soon. Small dealers, whose knowledge and experience are on a par with the paucity of their stock, are the chief disseminators of forgeries. The experienced dealer, in a large way of business, has a philatelic and business reputation to protect, and, therefore, cannot afford to sell forgeries, consequently he goes to considerable labour and expense to weed them out. But the small dealer does not pretend to such a reputation, and therefore thinks it a matter of no importance that he unwittingly sells forgeries. He pockets the coin and leaves that work to men of more experience. He is full of genuine admiration for a man who can detect a forgery at a glance; but, all the same, he is content to sell stamps, the genuineness of which he cannot guarantee. And until the dealer of limited means and knowledge can be made as amenable for selling a spurious article as a grocer is for selling margarine as butter, the small stamp dealer will be a constant source of danger and disgrace to the stamp trade.

The small dealers have been pitching into you, but let me ask them if they think it a general practice for the small dealers to have forgeries weeded out of their stock. If they do not, how can they pretend to be honest? They know very well that if they sell a forgery they are doing a dishonest thing, and they know that unless they get someone of experience to go through their stock, they are almost certain to be selling forgeries. Is it honest to run that risk? I think not.

Philately At Home.

MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS' CATALOGUE.

THE long expected volume which has been so patiently or rather impatiently awaited has at last turned up. It will be remembered that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' announcements specially stated that the prices in the new edition would be solely based on their stock and would in no way be a copy of any other catalogue. It is however curious to note how far the English Catalogue of our publishers has been copied; in every case where the latter work was in error, this error has been carefully copied by S.G. & Co. For instance the 1d. red-brown die 2 large crown, perf 16 is catalogued 3/6 and the 1d. rose-red large crown, perf, 16 at 8/-, whereas our English Catalogue has the prices 2/6 and 7/6 respectively, but this is in reality a mistake as the prices should have been reversed. Anyone with the slightest knowledge of English will agree with us that the rose-red is by far the commoner stamp.

Another instance is plate 4 and plate 5 of the 1/- telegraph which are catalogued 4/- and 3/6 respectively, whereas plate 9 is catalogued only 1/-. In our own catalogue these stamps are priced 3/6, 2/6 and 9d. respectively, but we have long since found out that plate 9 is by far the rarer stamp and that here again the prices should be reversed. We only mention these cases to prove that the claim of Messrs. S. G. & Co., not to have considered any other catalogue, is a piece of mischievous romancing.

As regards prices in other countries we quite admit that great care has been taken in many cases, but when we look at Nevis and St. Lucia, 1d. carmine, we cannot agree that these prices are not inserted but with a view to purchase. St. Christopher, 1d. lilac-rose, penmarked, catalogued by Senf, 20/-; Scott, 20/-; but Stanley Gibbons, 1/-; we ourselves are willing to buy 100 copies at that price. Falkland Islands, 1d. claret, *no wmk.*, price unused, 17/6, but we know for a fact that Messrs. S. G. & Co., have for some time past never sold a copy for less than 25/-. In the same country, 4d. grey brown C.A. straight-up and the same stamp, C.A. sideways are priced 1/- and 3/- respectively; as a matter of fact the former is worth about 10/- whereas the latter would be dear at a 1/-! And, with regard to the "get-up" of the catalogue, it seems particularly unfortunate that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, who have just made a most venomous attack on the celebrated catalogue of Senf Brothers, should now, without the smallest scruple, copy the form and general arrangement of that catalogue. We quite admit that it is galling to the Strand firm to be obliged to copy the idea of a pocket edition from a German rival. Messrs. Senf Bros. were the pioneers of the pocket size catalogues, which idea has been now copied by Scott, Barbarin, and Stanley Gibbons, but so far as Messrs. S. G. & Co.'s catalogue is concerned, it is certainly the worst imitation. The illustrations are of the cheapest sort, and the binding more than "amateurish." The 87,000 purchasers of Messrs. Senf's catalogue during the last four years did not so much buy the work as a price list, but as a philatelic handbook, and as such, neither Scott nor Stanley Gibbons have reached it by many miles. Stanley Gibbons' catalogue contains a large amount of ballast of an absolutely useless nature. What is the object of including such worthless rubbish as Swedish and Danish locals, labels of the German dead letter office, closing letters when returning them to the sender, and many others of a like nature. We also dispute the advisability of including Russian and American locals, many of which are of a doubtful character; if they wished to do so, there would have been far more reason to have had an addenda for these stamps than for postcards and envelopes. Stamps of Bokhara have also no right to be included, as it gives them a character which they really do not possess. We also cannot see why the various fancy Reprints of the Pacific Steam Navigation Co. should be admitted. On page 109, we notice a stamp of a Berlin Local Post, value 4d., priced at 2/6, which also has no right whatever to be included. That we do not stand alone in our opinion is shown by the letters published in another column. The price of 3/6, moreover, seems outrageously high comparing this catalogue with Senf and Scott.

Naturally there are some good points about the catalogue. To a great extent Colonial stamps have been very fairly valued, although we think the price of Australians are still somewhat too high. The careful investor cannot do better than strike an average between the three catalogues, Scott, Stanley Gibbons and Senf. None of them are perfect, but together they give a fair idea of ruling prices.

THE "OLD FILE" AND OUR ENQUIRY BUREAU.

DEAR SIRS.—At the risk of giving undue importance to a mere holiday trifle of no philatelic value whatever, I will ask you to let me tell such of your readers as are so good natured or idle or easily pleased as to read the simple utterances of "Old File" in the *P.J.G.B.* that they must not do me the dangerous honour of taking these "filings" seriously, or in any other sense than that intended by the writer, *i.e.* as quiet and good natured excursions on the lighter side of Philately.

I say this because it has come to my notice that my imaginary Jim's creation of an Enquiry Bureau in Camden Town has been wrongly interpreted by some (I sincerely hope by a very few) as conveying, directly or indirectly, some intentional slight on your very serious business undertaking. It is a little difficult for me to understand this; but, anyhow, I pray that no such interpretation may be given to my words. When "Old File's" fancies come to be taken seriously, and when the words he utters are found to give pain to any friend instead of affording harmless amusement, it will be time for the old fellow to lay aside his goosequill, as a clumsy weapon that may no longer safely be trusted!

Yet would I venture one little word in defence of my friend Jim. The great fault found with him, or rather with his intended placard, is that he advertises "*Philatelic characters given and taken away.*" Now I will ask you, Sir, whether Jim could render any true service to philately if he did not propose stoutly to take away as well as to give. The cases of Coelho and Harold Conne are, on your own shewing, very much to the point. It is, and rightly, your intention that some "enquiry" Institution should have been at hand to "take away" the fictitious characters on which these men traded to our great loss.

But from the land of shadows, in which young Jim and Flossie and "Old File" live, I will pass for a moment to the harder land of facts. It must be clear to anyone in these days that there is indeed room in philatelic matters, as in other concerns which involve buying and selling at a distance for a Bureau or Enquiry Office which shall help us to avoid being taken in by plausible and improper persons. May all good luck attend you in your undertaking,

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

The writer of the "Old File" articles in the *P.J.G.B.*

SENF BROS. v. STANLEY GIBBONS.

Owing to absence of Mr. Richard Senf from Leipsic, as we are advised by telegraph, no reply to Stanley Gibbons' attack could be published in this number, but will no doubt appear in our next.



City of London Philatelic Club.

HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of:—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, The Philatelic Record, A. Smith & Son's Monthly Circular, Monthly Offers, and The Stamp Collectors' Journal.*

From France: *L'annonce Timbrologie.*

From Germany: *Internationales Briefmarken Offentenblatt.*

From Austria: *Welt Post.*

From Portugal: *O Philatista* (August and September).

From the United States: *The American Journal of Philately, The Metropolitan Philatelist, Meckel's Weekly Stamp News* (Nos. 242 and 243), *The Post Office, The Rocky Mountain Stamp, and The Evergreen State Philatelist.*

From Buenos Ayres: *El Filatista Sud-Americanos.*

From India: *The Indian Philatelist.*

Auction Catalogues from The London Philatelic Co.

Mr. Forbes also thanks Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen (Swanage) for a copy of his Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Great Britain (4th edition).

Gifts of books and papers for the Library should be sent to Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same. All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings at Cossavella's Restaurant, 121, Cheapside, E.C.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Next meeting is on 26th September.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP,

And all other communications, must be addressed to the Secretary, City of London Philatelic Club, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturday mornings at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the uniform rate of three lines for sixpence.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES. s. d.

One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 21, 1895.

.. Between Ourselves ..

WITH this number we conclude the first volume of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, and we think our record for the year is one that we can point to with pardonable pride. When, a twelve-month ago, we published our first number, philatelists said "What! another paper?" and, in some cases, threw it aside with the mental observation that it would probably not outlive the usually brief span of a philatelic journal's existence. But, after the publication of two or three numbers, it began to be seen that the Editors of the "S.C.F." would not run upon conventional lines, but would strike out in quite a new way. Ere three months had elapsed, the FORTNIGHTLY became popular enough to be cordially hated in certain cliques and coteries.

When our first Christmas number appeared, containing the scathing exposure of the Philatelic Protection Association, everyone was delighted. For once we had solved the difficult problem of pleasing everybody at the same time; for while our friends were pleased with the P.P.A. exposure, our enemies were none the less delighted, because they foresaw the issue of a writ which would bring disaster to the "S.C.F."

It is a fact that a firm of the highest eminence in the stamp dealing trade went out of its way to make an offer to the Philatelic Protection Association to contribute a £50 cheque towards the expenses of prosecuting the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY. Unfortunately for this pretty scheme, our exposé of the P.P.A. contained nothing but plain unvarnished truth. Not the slightest attempt was made to controvert any one of the counts in our indictment of this worse than useless Association. So much for the P.P.A.

Another notable achievement of the "S.C.F." was the exposure of the Nyassaland fraud. At first, our exposure of this "bogus" issue was received with stony indifference; but we persisted, and the English dealer who had foolishly lent his name to the venture had to unreservedly acknowledge that we were right in every point. All monies paid for Nyassaland stamps having now been returned, the incident is closed; but who shall dare to say that without the exposure of the FORTNIGHTLY, the stamps (?) of Nyassaland would not still grace the albums of unfortunate investors?

But we do not propose to enter into a detailed list of all that we have done or attempted on behalf of the welfare of philately. From the letters we constantly receive from readers, we know quite well that our efforts are thoroughly appreciated. It goes without saying that the success of the FORTNIGHTLY has not conduced to the popularity of our

publishers among their fellow-traders; but in this regard they are amply compensated by the increased esteem of honest, well-meaning men.

It is hardly necessary to add that every effort will be made to maintain the FORTNIGHTLY's standard of usefulness and journalistic merit. In our next number—being the first number of the new volume—there will be a slight re-arrangement of our principal features, and a general improvement in the get-up of the paper. And in this connection we shall be very happy to hear from any readers who have suggestions to make, or opinions to offer.

H.H.

* * *

MR. N. F. SEEBECK on Mr. N. F. Seebeck, as published in another part of this issue, makes interesting reading. With what ill-considered harshness **Seebeckian Sauce.** have we judged this great and good philatelist!

Yes, *philatelist*; for does not Mr. Seebeck assure us, with a perilous admixture of pathos and the other thing, that "long before the grey hairs began to crop out on the top of his devoted cranium, he became and has ever since remained an enthusiastic devotee of the science of philately." Quite touching, is it not? and there is more of the same sort to follow. Mr. Seebeck would have us believe that he has never suspected anything shady or disreputable in his business methods. Bless you! he is one of the best friends philately has ever had; the philatelic millenium (though he thinks it is a long way off) is the one thing for which he lives; and, finally, he "wishes God-speed to the crusade of honesty and integrity in philatelic affairs." With affecting humility he submits that he has as much right to change his mind as Gladstone, and so, like that eminent gymnast, he takes a sharp turn round and *presto!* We find him solemnly discussing ways and means by which that Seebeck fellow's contracts may be cancelled. He even goes so far, does this "devotee of the science of philately," as to offer to cancel his contracts right away; BUT (a very big "but," Mr. Printer) he wants things made easy for him. He wants it to be guaranteed that no similar contracts will be made with any of his trade rivals by the governments concerned, and he wants to be released from "all obligations assumed" in those contracts. "I do not think that I can do more," he adds in effect. We do not think that he could possibly do less.

P.C.B.

* * *

IN the light of recent repeated "finds" of stamps regarded as practically unobtainable by men of moderate Philatelic means, the question occurs to the wary philatelist—"Finds."—can we ever be certain that we have got to the end of the existing store of any given stamp? Put it in that way, and the answer must be, "No," but that answer may be qualified. There are certain cases—such cases as those of the early Mauritius and British Guiana issues—which we may safely regard as exceptions. And in regard to many other high-grade stamps, as the Yankee dealers call them, there is a wealth of common-sense argument against the likelihood of any considerable "find." Yet it is often the unexpected that happens; it is certainly the unexpected that has happened in the big "find" of St. Louis stamps, just reported. At once the question arises,—“Will this 'find' depreciate the value of St. Louis stamps?” We are inclined to say "Yes," but till fuller details are to hand, one cannot say anything with certainty. But a discovery of over 100 stamps, worth at present rates from £20 to £50 each, is a big thing, and well calculated to give the investor in philatelic rarities pause. One feels thankful somehow that what has just happened in Louisville is not likely to occur elsewhere.

P.C.B.

* * *

Is it not remarkable that our American brethren have been so long in the dark as to the full possibilities of the specialisation of their own country's stamps? **Time's Revenges.** Only within the past twelve months have they awakened to the existence of plate numbers; but one must admit that now that their eyes are opened they are going "full steam ahead." Mr. John N. Luff has just concluded in the *American Journal of Philately* an appalling

compilation of the various plate numbers obtainable—or, in many cases, we fear, unobtainable. By a few strokes of the pen he has added, not dozens, but hundreds of varieties to the total of those the American specialist must hunt for. The American plate-number collector is at this great disadvantage: the plate-number appears only on the margin of the sheet of stamps—in the place where we should look for the official "account letter." But we have heard it said—and the paradox deserves to live—that "disadvantages are advantages to the true philatelist." But who would have thought that the very philatelists whose organs were last year crying down the English habit of plate-number collecting as childish and ridiculous, would, within a few months, commence the study and collection of plate numbers that are only collectible on gummed margins? Verily, verily, the whirligig of time, etc., etc.—just as much in philately as in anything else.

P.C.B.

Stamp Show at Ipswich.

A PHILATELIC EXHIBITION
FOR THE EDIFICATION OF PROFESSOR DRYASDUST.

(By Our Special Commissioner.)

Ipswich, 11th Sept., 1895.

IPSWICH is in the hands of the scientists. Professor Dryasdust and Dr. Dullfax, *et hoc genus omne*, are here in great force for the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. And by way of proving that philately is the science it claims to be, Mr. Whitfield King, who is *persona grata* in this old city, conceived the bright idea of forming a big philatelic show for the edification of Prof. & Mrs. Dryasdust. By the courtesy of Mr. King I have been admitted to a special Press view of the exhibition and am thus enabled to send off a full and special account of the array of treasures in time for the forthcoming *Fortnightly*.

Many prominent Collectors sent the bright particular stars of their collections to fill the frames now hanging upon the walls of Mr. King's spacious offices in Lacey Street.

Mr. W. B. Avery, of Birmingham, sends the rarities *par excellence*. In addition to his unused 1d. and 2d. "Post Office" Mauritius, he shows his fine wood-block Cape errors, his splendid set of the first issue of Moldavia—seldom seen, and valued at something like £260; and a magnificent block of six unused double Genevas. Then there are also his early Afghans, his rare British Guianas, and his fine accumulation of Confederate States, including the scarce Millbury stamp.

Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., sends a fine lot of old Europeans, the contents of the small frame in which these exhibits are placed being valued at over £2,000. Amongst them is the celebrated block of four Saxony stamps, printed in the wrong colour, and worth £200; a copy of the Swedish error, made in giving it a denomination of 20 ore in figures and 30 ore in words; and other rarities from Tuscany, Parma, Modena, Lombardy, and other countries. Some fourteen English stamps are valued at £415, and among these is a fine specimen of the "V.R."

Mr. Robert Ehrenbach contributes also a set of rare European stamps, largely representative of the issues from the smaller German States, when each had its own postal service. One noticeable thing is a re-constructed sheet of the first issue of Saxony; there are Oldenberg stamps printed on both sides, and good sheets of Russia, the Levant, Denmark, Sweden, Bavaria, Belgium, and Wurtemberg.

Mr. W. W. Blest, of Watlington, Kent, sends a very fine collection, complete in all varieties, of the first issues of Queensland, New Zealand and Trinidad.

Mr. T. Wickham Jones, of London, has sent a few choice varieties only from his grand collection of the stamps of Shanghai.

From Mr. A. de Worms, of Milton Park, Egham, comes the finest collection in the world of early issues of the stamps of Ceylon, complete in every variety, and including the four-penny unperforated, which was bought at auction for £130.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies have sent four frames including a complete set of stamps just issued for the British Central Africa Protectorate or British Nyassaland (no connection, of course, with the celebrated Salisbury issue!)



Many of these are beautifully designed, while the face value ranges from one penny up to £25.

The Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope sent six large frames of South African stamps, both postage and revenue, and the British North Borneo Company have forwarded stamps which are extremely beautiful specimens of engraving.

Mr. Whitfield King himself has covered a generous proportion of wall space with a selection of the stamps issued during the last ten years, a selection which necessarily includes a number of stamps that the S.S.S.S. advises us not to admit into our albums. But they make an unexceptionable wall-paper.

Speaking of wall-papers naturally brings one to Mr. King's celebrated "philatelic" room, in which the walls are completely papered with stamps. This will be much admired by Professor Dryasdust, though it is conceivable that he will look upon the gummy mural decoration as being liable to harbour microbes. (Of this interesting room we give a picture on this page. The size of the room is 15ft. by 13ft.,

and the stamps used are the following:—Argentine Republic, Samoa, Bergedorf, Lübeck, Hanover, Servia, Cuba, Roman States, Philippine Islands, Alsace and Lorraine, Sardinia, and 16 English (sixpenny), a total of 49,542 stamps. All the stamps are unused, the majority of them being, of course, reprints. The work was carried out by a skilled decorator, who was engaged exclusively on this task for three months, working eleven hours a day.—Eds., "S.C.F.")

While here, I and various other gentlemen bidden to the private view, have enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Whitfield King at their handsome home, Morpeth House, which faces the offices of the firm in Lacey Street.

While gazing with rapt admiration at the famous unused 4d., imperf., Ceylon (the £130 one) which figures prominently in Mr. de Worms' exhibit, Mr. King poured into my ear the pathetic story of the sad fate of a strip of five of the used IMPERF fourpenny, which at one time came into his possession. One of his young lady clerks, not thinking it right that the stamps should be undivided, quietly severed them with the office scissors. The gummed margin she also cut neatly away. "That morning," said Mr. King, "I was a little late at the office, but I don't think a quarter of an hour's delay ever cost me so much. Such a strip, according to to-day's market value, would be worth from £250 to £300, and would certainly be unique."

Among the incidents that have enlivened my pilgrimage to Ipswich, the Thompson episode ranks easily first. While we were all engaged elsewhere, Mr. T. H. Thompson (of Leeward Islands fame) quietly sidled up to Mr. Avery's treasures and began making a deliberate attempt to elope with the celebrated Mauritius twins. But with a mighty shout Charles Whitfield King girded up his loins and grappled with the amateur burglar. Turning to a speaking tube he ordered "handcuffs for one!" and to the general astonishment handcuffs were actually brought in. Mr. King, it seems, has a pair in his "curio" collection. The handcuffs were applied, but Mr. Thompson, with an ease that gave rise to all sorts of impertinent suggestions, easily escaped from their embrace. It was a capital joke, splendidly acted all through.

LATER.

The attendance at the philatelic show exceeds anticipations. Professor Dryasdust has arrived bringing with him not only Mrs. D., but also all the little Dryasdusts.

Under Bennett's Clock.

OUR MAMMOTH NUMBER.



NO doubt our readers are aware that the present number is the last of Vol. I., and as we are always desirous of increasing the circulation of the "S.C.F.", we have decided to print of the first number of the second volume 10,000 copies, to be despatched to every English speaking collector on our books. As our friends, the enemies, will at once say—"What exaggeration," we shall print in the following number a facsimile of the Post Office receipt for the number of copies posted.

Of course this is the grandest opportunity ever offered to British philatelists to advertise, as the paper will be sent to about 2,000 home addresses, 2,000 addresses in Germany, about 2,500 to America, and the rest spread over the world. We make no extra charge in our rates, and

those of our advertisers who have a contract with us for a series of advertisements will have their advertisement inserted in the ordinary way; naturally we hope to have a very big addition to our subscription list, and thus advertisers who help us with our venture will derive permanent benefit from the increased circulation. All orders to go into this special number must reach us by latest Monday, 30th September, accompanied by remittance. Those orders not paid in advance will simply not be inserted. There will be many new departures with the forthcoming volume and those of our readers whose subscriptions expire with this number (there are only a few hundred) will do well to send their renewals without delay as positively no FORTNIGHTLY will go out unless paid for; we do not conduct this paper on philanthropic, but on philatelic lines.

OUR ENQUIRY BUREAU.

HARDLY had the notice of our new venture appeared in print when abuse began to be showered upon us, mostly of course by way of anonymous letters and talk behind our back, but in one instance a printed notice has appeared.

Of course, Mr. Brown, of Salisbury, could not forego the opportunity of having a hit at us. We can quite understand that the watchful eye of a Sherlock Holmes is distasteful to a good many dealers. If it hadn't been for the watch-dog in Cheapside, the Nyassaland stamps would not have been discovered, or was it Mr. Brown who discovered them?

Evidently our readers have full confidence in our Bureau, as is proved by the subscriptions which we have so far received. How necessary it was to establish a Philatelic Centre of Enquiry may be gathered from the fact that a few days ago a selection of Leeward Island stamps was handed to us by one of our readers who had received it from a foremost member of the "Philatelic Protection Association!" This book was absolutely teeming with forged postmarks of a palpable character. *In one case a whole page contained nothing but forgeries.* Many stamps which had been sold out of this book were without a doubt forgeries. We have no hesitation in saying that we consider this one of the most glaring examples of philatelic fraud which has come under our notice. The dealer in question always poses as a great expert of unimpeachable character, but as we have found him out before, and as this book was priced by him personally, the plea of carelessness cannot for a moment be maintained. We should be glad to hear from readers who have recently bought any Leeward Islands, which are more scarce used than unused, notably St. Lucia, to submit the stamps to us for inspection, as we shall certainly not permit such impudent frauds to be perpetrated in future. HARRY HILCKES.

The Truth about Seebecks.

A REPLY FROM MR. N. F. SEEBECK.

To the Editors of the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

DEAR SIRS,

I am not callous to the attacks made upon me as a manufacturer of what my over-zealous critics have chosen to call "Seebeckized" stamp issues. As a mere manufacturer, I could afford to disregard these attacks; I would simply adapt my methods in the future, as I have adapted them in the past, to the needs and demands of my market. But I am not merely a manufacturer; I am, and have been for years, a loyal and ardent philatelist. Long before the gray hairs began to crop out on the top of my devoted cranium, I became, and have ever since remained, an enthusiastic devotee of the science of philately. And it is as one of your fraternity, and because I want to retain the respect of my fellow philatelists that I feel most keenly the injustice which has been done me. I do not think that the false imputations are inspired by malice. They are rather the result of mis-directed and exaggerated zeal in a crusade—the main end and purpose of which is laudable—a crusade against official abuse of postal administrative powers. With this crusade, as far as it attacks vicious administrative systems, I heartily sympathize, but I protest against the personal animus

It pays to advertise in this paper.

injected into it and which singles out a mere individual engraver as its victim and scapegoat. I protest especially against the unfair, not to say libelous, abuse of my name as a trade-mark of everything that is unholy, and as if I were personally and peculiarly responsible for the acts of every government that chooses to employ me. Is it not plain that such a rule of responsibility is false, unfair and overstrained?

For years I have dealt with these various governments whose conduct seems recently to have aroused hostile criticism. During all these years my dealings have been known and sustained by the philatelic world; no one seems to have thought that my acceptance of payment in kind for my services as an engraver was anything but prudent and fair. Suddenly the current of opinion seems to have changed. Well and good. No one disputes that a man, or even a whole set of men, can honestly undergo a change of opinion. Gladstone in England, Bismark in Germany, Gambetta in France, and our Webster and Clay and "honest old Abe Lincoln," are brilliant examples of courage and honesty in confessing that wider experience had convinced them of former error and induced them to modify their previous opinions. And as I honour them, so I respect those members of our fraternity who now claim that their previous sanction of my business methods was a mistake. But why am I not entitled to the same consideration which I am willing to extend to them. Why should they not recognise that, if I was or am mistaken in believing my methods to be right, I am at least honestly mistaken?

I have said that, as a business man, I necessarily adopt my methods to the changing demands of my market. In this case I shall, as a philatelist, do so most cheerfully, I shall bow to the consensus of opinion in my fraternity. Not that I am even now convinced that as a manufacturer I am responsible for governmental abuse, nor because my combination of dealers will, in my opinion, ever be strong enough to force the hand of administrative officers. Indeed, I may go further and say that personally I believe the charges of maladministration to be grossly exaggerated, but in principle I agree with the spirit of the crusade against the indiscriminate issue of speculative stamps; and, wholly irrespective of the merits involved, I rejoice in the manly stand which our fraternity is taking for what it honestly deems to be fair and square. I trust that the time will come when governments will realize that they owe something to the philatelic world. I believe that the present crusade will help to bring nearer that philatelic millennium, although as a practical man, I feel that the millennium is still a good way off. But each of us can help and I, among others, am willing to become an ally in the movement by discontinuing the contracts which my fellow philatelists find so obnoxious, provided that I can do so with honour and without prejudice to vested rights.

It must, however, be evident to every reasonable person, that my withdrawal from or attempt to cancel my present contracts with the various South and Central American Republics would, for the purposes of our crusade, be futile, unless some adequate protection is guaranteed against the making of similar contracts with my competitors. But if my fellow philatelists, in furtherance of their high ends, can secure from each one of the countries concerned, a guarantee that no contract similar in spirit to those found objectionable will hereafter be made with any other bank note company or other person, I am prepared to cancel every objectionable contract which I now hold, provided, of course, that the respective governments will join in such cancellation and release me from obligations assumed. I do not know how I can more effectually evidence my sympathy with the demand for fair play.

And, in the meantime, I wish God-speed to the crusade of honesty and integrity in philatelic affairs. Only let the crusade be one of principle and not one of personal animosity.

Yours respectfully,

N. F. SEEBECK.

New York, Aug. 29th, 1895.

. . Our Forum. .

* * * Correspondents should write upon one side of the paper only and as briefly as possible. Name and address in full must accompany each letter. It must not be thought that the Editors of this paper identify themselves with the opinions of Correspondents.

"THE BEST PRICED CATALOGUE IN THE WORLD."

DEAR SIRS,—I am only a young collector, and do not understand much about philately, but it is my aim to find out and inwardly digest as much as I can concerning the modern science.

Last April, when the announcement appeared in the *Monthly Journal* definitely stating that Stanley Gibbons' New Catalogue would soon be ready, I immediately forwarded my postal order for 3/6, as a good collector should. As time went on, the publication of the famous Catalogue was postponed month by month, but fresh notices appeared to the effect that it would be of a size convenient to the pocket, consist of about 800 pages, printed with fresh type, contain large numbers of illustrations in the body of the work, and be bound in cloth.

At last it was announced to be ready on the 20th Sept., and, strange to say, my copy arrived on the 12th. But alas! what a disappointment. At first, I thought I had received a patent medicine, or similar advertisement, but the "get-up" was even worse than that. All I got,—well, I suppose for name's sake it must be called a book, loosely sewn, with a cloth cover glued on, and consisting of 616 pages, of which over 50 are filled with advertisements.

However, remembering the words of the sage, "that things are not always what they seem," I unfortunately opened it, and consequently, in a few minutes, the cover came off and the book fell to pieces. Taking this misfortune lightly I began to peruse the contents of the world-famed catalogue. Soon I reflected that the enterprising individual who offers a 5d. unused Turk's Island to purchasers of the Catalogue, might instead give away a cake of Monkey Brand, or pumice stone, for my hands were like those of the deepest dyed villian, stained with reeking gore from the magnificent red cloth cover.

Have any of the readers of the "S.C.F." seen a copy of the 50 cents grey, Chili? It exists—in Gibbons' latest Catalogue.

A slight inconvenience is caused by there being no index, but I musn't grumble, for it only took an hour to find the location of the Danish West Indies under St. Thomas, St. John, &c., and I have doubts if all know (to quote the Editor's words) that the Sandwich Islands have gone to H.

Of the prices, I can't say much, knowing but little about them, although I am surprised at stamps costing under 1/- per thousand being catalogued at 3d. and 4d., and others much scarcer being obtainable at 1d., but it is evident that some stamps have risen in value in a very short time. For instance, the 1 yen, carmine, Japan, is catalogued by Scott at 12 cents (used), and Gibbons quotes it at 6s. May I ask if Mr. Phillips would buy them at anything like the price; I am afraid he is erring the opposite way to what he says our good friend Senf is.

In the preface an announcement is made respecting the publication of the next catalogue. I hardly think Stanley Gibbons & Co. need trouble about that,—but no,—they might issue a Braille edition, for by that time all philatelists, or at least, habitual users of the catalogue will be blind, or nearly so, by looking at the clear type and similar illustrations, as especially shown in those of the Columbus issue of the United States. Why do not the publishers supply a magnifying glass with each copy, or are they in league with the neighbouring opticians?

I found it an easy matter to tell the differences between the various surcharges of the Azores, Straits Settlements, Madeira &c., the values on the Indian Native States, the Sydney views, slight differences in design, and other necess-

You may have noticed that when a man comes into our advertising columns he stops in.

any knowledge from the aforesaid types, but all I can see different between the types of the 10 cents blue, Confederate States, is that the price of one is 2/- and of the other 3d.

Although the catalogue contains all known varieties &c. (see title page and preface) I found no mention of the different types of the first issue Indian, or last issue Denmark, but in their places, pages cataloguing minute differences in Danish, Russian, United States and other *locals*.

Gibbons' Catalogue was one of the standard and best produced general stamp catalogue in existence; but Scott's went one better, with a neat looking, well bound pocket Catalogue. Imitation being the sincerest flattery, Gibbons' modelled theirs on the same lines. Nobody blames them for this, for now-a-days one must keep pace with the times, but after puffing it up, and keeping people waiting for it such a long time (and keeping the money, too), one naturally expects something better than a commonly printed, covered and sewn book, without an index, possessing prominent defects, and which in a short time presents the appearance of a collection of ragged leaves. The excuse for its tardy appearance, that it has been the publisher's aim to make it "the best priced Catalogue in the world," hardly holds water.

Why Gibbons, only producing a Catalogue every two or three years, should charge 3/6 (although it can now be obtained through a bookseller for 2/7½), while one can purchase a "Scott" once every twelve months, much better printed, better bound, &c., for 2/-, is to me an unexplained mystery.

Yours, &c., A.B.

Bessborough Street,

St. George's Square, S.W., 17th Sept., 1895.

STANLEY GIBBONS' NEW CATALOGUE.

DEAR SIRS,—Probably I shall not be alone in protesting very warmly against the very poor sort of catalogue that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., have issued, after keeping the philatelic public on the tip toe of expectancy for several months past. That the catalogue is very compact, and the idea of separating the entire from the adhesives will commend itself to many collectors, I think the binding is poor in the extreme; the paper is fair; the printing is poor; the cuts are execrable. The catalogue is obviously an imitation of "Senf's" and "Scott's" throughout. The English portion, which specially interests me, is, very, very incomplete. Even an inexperienced man, after a careful study of Morley, Ewen, or your own excellent catalogue, could have produced a far better result. The way in which the English plate-numbers and their prices have been shirked or avoided, is, to say the least of it, rather below the dignity of a would-be leading firm. I note that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' English prices bear a striking similarity to the prices quoted in your catalogue; so much so that various misprints which crept into your admirable book are faithfully repeated in this new catalogue. There is a little too much co-incidence here. As to the prices generally, I will only say that there are some dozens of stamps that I should very much like to purchase from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., at full catalogue rates.

Believe me, Yours faithfully, D. T. NOPS.

Chelsham Road, Clapham, 14th September, 1895.

WANTED: A CATALOGUE—BADLY.

DEAR SIRS,—The mountains having laboured with large groanings for nigh upon a year, the more than ridiculous mouse has come forth, and the question is, "Who is to produce a Stamp Catalogue and Handbook for Collectors?"

The messy imitation of Senf's, and of Hollis's Catalogues, for which we have eagerly waited, and at last disgustfully bought, is, of course, a disgrace to English Philately, and you would be doing a service to the cult if you would issue a catalogue in which Senf's information could be combined with Gibbons' old illustrations, after the manner of Lincoln's catalogue, which is an ideally arranged and published work, but of such elementary completeness as to make it quite useless to the collector of over six months' standing. We do not want a three-and-sixpenny horror, like a cheap iron-monger's price list, which bubbles in sunshine or dampness, and whose colouring comes off everywhere; but a solid and well-edited volume at a good price, printed in such a manner

as not to produce ophthalmia at the end of ten minutes, and purgatory after death at the end of half-an-hour.

London, Sept., 1895. Yours faithfully, A MERE NONENTITY.

STAMP EXCHANGE CLUBS AND THE WAY THEY ARE CONDUCTED.

DEAR SIR,—I should like to draw attention to the disgraceful way in which some Stamp Exchange Clubs are conducted, believing that only publicity in your widely-circulated and deservedly popular journal will bring about a reform.

I have been a collector now for the past twenty years—or including my early schooldays, say twenty-five years. During that period, I have been a member of dozens of Exchange Clubs; but only about three of them have come up to my ideal of an Exchange Club. The others have been unsatisfactory in many ways. Either my sheets of stamps have been detained for months by the secretaries when they ought to have been back in as many weeks; or I have had considerable difficulty in getting a settlement of my credit balance; or some member has had the impudence to mark a big "F" above some of my stamps; or some dishonest member has substituted a penny one for a shilling one; or for some other cause the clubs have been anything but satisfactory.

The only reason that I can assign for such a state of affairs is the want of interest on the part of the secretaries of the clubs. Instead of insisting upon the rule being religiously kept and expelling those members who break a rule, no notice is taken, and the club gradually becomes a danger rather than a help to collectors in general.

It seems to me that there is only one remedy for all this, and that is a drastic one, namely: To publish a black list of all clubs where the secretaries are dilatory in the conducting of them.

Why should I have to wait months for the return of my sheets, when the Secretary has long ago received them back from the last member? Why should I have to wait for my cash in settlement of account, because perhaps the secretary himself has purchased more stamps than he can pay for? Why should my property be damaged by the marking of certain stamps (which I know to be genuine) as forgeries by some man or boy who is ashamed to append over his signature? Why should my stamps be taken and commoner ones substituted because the secretary of the club exercises no discretion as to who he accepts as a member?

All these are pertinent questions, and there can be in my opinion only one answer to them. Rid philately of all these wretched clubs and institutes; in place of them, clubs run by responsible men, whose integrity and honesty can be vouched for.—This can only be done by the present members of those clubs which are not conducted in a straightforward fashion, resigning in a body and joining good clubs, where the rules provided are rigidly adhered to.

It is the want of organization and publicity that enables such clubs as I have declaimed to exist, and such men as Coelho to fatten on the property of others.

I should like to see a Society established that will take up the question of Exchange Clubs, and endeavour to reform them. Such an organization, rather than being a drawback to dealers, would greatly assist them, because members who could not obtain certain stamps in the clubs would naturally go to the some dealer for them, thereby increasing the profits of the dealers. I have never yet been able to understand why dealers should be afraid of Exchange Clubs; because it stands to reason that the more the fascination of stamp collecting is encouraged, the more must both dealers and collectors profit thereby.

This letter is, no doubt, a trifle disjointed, as I do not pretend to be a journalist, but simply Yours faithfully,

A DUPLICATE-EXCHANGER.

London, Sept. 4th, 1895.

[Our correspondent would do well to put himself in communication with the Secretary of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society, of the existence of which he evidently hasn't heard. The Secretary, Mr. F. A. Wickhart, 70, Sotheby Road, Highbury Park, N., will send him rules on application.—*Ens.*, "S.C.F."]

Printed for the Proprietors, HARRY HILCKES & CO., LIMITED, by PARDY & SON, Philatelic Printers, 8, The Triangle, Bournemouth, and Published at 64, Cheapside, London.

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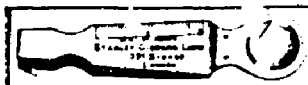
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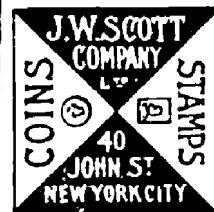
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PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 2d. for every six words, — Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

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Callers at the offices of Messrs. Hildes & Co. of this paper, will find 93, Cheapside, nearly opposite [21]

WANTED.—English Used and Unused, especially the Engraved Series. Good price paid.—BIGGOLD, English Stamp Exchange Society, Mill Hill, London, N.W. [4]

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